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REVIEW

SEA-BORNE TRADE

OF THE

MADRAS PRESIDENCY

FOR THE YEAR 1916-17

WITH THE

REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF SEA AND LAND CUSTOMS, THE MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT AND THE COTTON DUTIES ACT

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MADRAS
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REVIEW

OF THE

SEA-BORNE TRADE

OF THE

MADRAS PRESIDENCY

FOR THE YEAR 1916-17

General summary.—The following table summarises the value of the sea-borne trade, both foreign and coasting, inclusive of Government transactions, for the year ending 31st March 1917, compared with the value for the preceding two years and with the average for the five years ending 1913-14 :—

	Average for five years ending 1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	Increase or decrease in 1916-17.	Percentage of difference in 1916-17.
A.—PRIVATE.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	
I. Foreign Trade.						
Imports—						
Merchandise	12,23,71,697	12,52,30,108	11,53,20,382	12,85,58,826	+ 1,32,38,444	+ 11·48
Gold	38,30,362	95,333	437		— 437	..
Silver	18,48,769	17,92,600	2,86,799	1,99,583	— 87,216	— 30·31
Total, Imports ..	12,80,50,828	12,71,18,041	11,56,07,618	12,87,58,409	+ 1,31,50,791	+ 11·37
Exports—						
Foreign merchandise re-exported.	18,86,677	15,14,466	21,58,526	21,68,676	+ 10,150	+ 0·46
Indian produce	22,72,09,537	21,46,04,567	24,36,68,590	25,69,57,963	+ 1,32,89,373	+ 5·45
Gold	5,09,566	23,62,915	2,32,863	7,955	— 2,24,908	— 96·60
Silver	59,12,071	43,93,842	32,23,289	89,90,210	+ 57,66,921	+ 178·93
Total, Exports ..	23,55,17,851	22,28,75,790	24,92,83,268	26,81,24,804	+ 1,88,41,536	+ 7·56
Total, Foreign Trade ..	36,35,68,679	34,99,93,831	36,48,90,886	39,68,83,213	+ 3,19,92,327	+ 8·76
II. Coasting Trade.						
Imports—						
Indian produce	7,90,89,687	6,70,32,011	5,86,65,298	5,30,95,873	— 55,69,425	— 9·49
Foreign merchandise	1,08,40,465	78,95,172	73,66,371	81,79,029	+ 8,12,658	+ 11·04
Gold	8,346	..	..	..	..	..
Silver	2,63,239	4,06,797	3,08,131	5,45,526	+ 2,37,395	+ 76·94
Total, Imports	9,02,01,737	7,53,33,980	6,63,39,800	6,18,20,428	— 45,19,372	— 6·81
Exports—						
Indian produce	5,61,37,136	5,44,47,157	4,78,02,531	5,41,47,821	+ 63,45,290	+ 13·27
Foreign merchandise	12,96,336	9,30,961	10,89,133	16,95,153	+ 6,06,020	+ 55·65
Gold	7,500	..	..	..	..	..
Silver	2,12,440	3,80,000	2,90,500	5,41,000	+ 2,50,500	+ 86·25
Total, Exports ..	5,76,53,412	5,57,58,118	4,91,82,164	5,63,83,974	+ 72,01,810	+ 14·64
Total, Coasting Trade ..	14,78,55,149	13,10,92,098	11,55,21,964	11,82,04,402	+ 26,82,438	+ 2·32
Grand Total, Private Trade ..	51,14,23,828	48,10,85,929	48,04,12,850	51,50,87,615	+ 3,46,74,765	+ 7·22
B.—GOVERNMENT.						
Foreign—						
Imports	36,97,722	36,26,518	63,13,429	97,11,908	+ 33,98,479	+ 53·83
Exports	1,41,054	3,56,962	1,54,939	1,79,23,146	+ 1,77,68,207	..
Coasting—						
Imports	60,44,038	11,44,048	6,71,231	20,44,412	+ 13,73,181	+ 204·62
Exports	26,64,719	5,66,568	10,26,137	7,29,906	— 2,96,231	— 28·85
Total, Government Transactions ..	1,25,47,533	56,94,096	81,65,736	3,04,09,372	+ 2,22,43,636	+ 272·40
Total, Trade ..	52,39,71,361	48,67,80,025	48,85,78,586	54,54,96,987	+ 5,69,18,401	+ 11·65

The aggregate value of the sea-borne trade of the Presidency was nearly Rs. 5,455 lakhs, showing an increase of Rs. 569 lakhs, or 12 per cent, as compared with that of the preceding year, and an increase of Rs. 215 lakhs, or 4 per cent, when compared with the average for five years ending 1913-14, and only Rs. 361 lakhs, or 6 per cent below the record figures of 1913-14. Government transactions amounted to Rs. 304 lakhs, or Rs. 222 lakhs more than those of 1915-16.

Foreign trade continued to feel the effects of the war and in view of the difficulties of obtaining tonnage and the very high rates of freight, coupled with the restrictions extended to most commodities and exchange difficulties it is remarkable that the total value of our sea-borne trade considerably exceeded that of the average for the five years immediately preceding the war. It must be borne in mind however, that this increase was largely due to the high prices prevailing almost everywhere and that the quantity of trade borne by sea was in most cases materially less than in previous years.

The United Kingdom has increased her trade with Madras both in imports and exports, and this is also true in the case of the United States of America and Japan.

Foreign trade, including Government transactions, improved from Rs. 3,714 lakhs to Rs. 4,245 lakhs, or by 14 per cent. *Coasting trade* increased from Rs. 1,172 lakhs to Rs. 1,210 lakhs, or by 3 per cent. Excluding Government transactions, foreign trade improved by 9 per cent and coasting trade by 2 per cent.

Under *foreign trade*, *imports* of private merchandise expanded from Rs. 1,153·20 lakhs to Rs. 1,285·59 lakhs, or by 11 per cent, due to increased values under cotton manufactures, paper and pasteboard, cotton twist and yarn, motor vehicles, spices, metals, chemicals, sugar, machinery and millwork, provisions, woollen manufactures and soap, while under railway materials, matches and cement there was a decrease.

Exports improved from Rs. 2,458·27 lakhs to Rs. 2,591·27 lakhs, or by 5 per cent, and if the figures for tanned cow hides shipped under Government control from September 1916 be added the total exports show an increase of 13 per cent. The increase in value chiefly occurs under leather, raw cotton, oils, drugs and medicines, raw skins, raw rubber, spices, sugar, fish, manures, postal articles, raw jute and living animals. These increases were partly counterbalanced by decreases under grain and pulse, seeds, indigo, coffee and cotton twist and yarn.

Imports of *treasure* declined from Rs. 2·87 lakhs to Rs. 2 lakhs, or by 30 per cent, while exports improved from Rs. 34·56 lakhs to Rs. 89·98 lakhs, or by 160 per cent, owing to larger shipments of rupees to Ceylon and the Straits Settlements.

Under *coasting trade* imports of private merchandise declined from Rs. 660·32 lakhs to Rs. 612·75 lakhs, or by 7 per cent, owing to smaller imports of grain and pulse, while exports improved from Rs. 488·92 lakhs to Rs. 558·43 lakhs, or by 14 per cent, in consequence of larger shipments of coffee, coconuts, groundnut oil, manures, sugar, seeds and spices.

Balance of trade.—The following table shows the balance of trade in merchandise and treasure under foreign trade during the past five years :—

	Private.			Private and Government.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of exports over imports.	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of exports over imports.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
1912-13	13,25,39,917	25,30,74,134	12,05,34,217	13,58,12,420	25,32,01,645	11,73,89,225
1913-14	16,53,68,244	26,88,37,492	10,34,69,248	16,97,76,951	26,90,23,740	9,92,46,789
1914-15	12,71,18,041	22,28,75,790	9,57,57,749	13,07,44,559	22,32,32,752	9,24,88,193
1915-16	11,56,07,618	24,92,83,268	13,36,75,650	12,19,21,047	24,94,38,207	12,75,17,160
1916-17	12,87,58,409	26,81,24,804	13,93,66,395	13,84,70,317	28,60,47,950	14,75,77,633

Customs revenue.—The following table shows the gross and net customs duty, inclusive of the duty on imported salt, realised in the Madras Presidency :—

	Average for five years ending 1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	Increase or decrease in 1916-17.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Import duty (excluding duty on salt)	68,72,151	59,90,699	86,96,947	+ 27,06,248
Import duty on salt	5,681	3,010	5,785	+ 2,775
Export duty	8,46,308	13,98,087	14,18,660	+ 20,573
Total, Gross duty ..	77,24,140	73,91,796	1,01,21,392	+ 27,29,596
Refunds and Drawbacks—				
Imports	95,473	96,514	1,92,492	+ 95,978
Exports	30,150	55,908	51,148	− 4,760
Total ..	1,25,623	1,52,422	2,43,640	+ 91,218
Total, Net duty ..	75,98,517	72,39,374	98,77,752	+ 26,38,378

The total gross revenue was Rs. 101·21 lakhs, an increase over the previous year of Rs. 27·30 lakhs, or 37 per cent. The amount of import duty realised improved from Rs. 59·94 lakhs to Rs. 87·03 lakhs, or by 45 per cent, partly as a result of enhanced rates of duty leviable under the revised tariff of March 1916 and partly as the result of the high prices of the articles. Larger payments of duty were received on manufactured articles (+ Rs. 11·69 lakhs or 89 per cent), sugar (+ Rs. 3·74 lakhs or 181 per cent),

articles of food and drink (+ Rs. 3·02 lakhs or 80 per cent) and cotton manufactures (+ Rs. 2·40 lakhs or 30 per cent). The increase of Rs. 0·21 lakh, or 1·5 per cent, under export duty was the net result of larger collections on tea by Rs. 2·86 lakhs and smaller collections on rice by Rs. 2·67 lakhs.

Standard Price Level.—The following table shows the variations in the average prices of the more important articles of commerce. The mean for the years 1898–99, 1899–1900 and 1900–01 has been taken as the standard price level, viz. 100 :—

	Average for three years ending 1900–01.	1910–11.	1912–13.	1913–14.	1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Imports.							
Metals and ores — copper	100	94·60	101·13	104·25	107·99	124·72	208 24
Metals and ores — iron and steel ..	100	93·85	105·24	94·72	113·12	148·86	211 00
Oils, kerosene	100	101·45	95·64	96·12	97·82	110·90	126·63
Spices, betelnuts	100	114·91	154·38	164·91	148·25	138·60	143·86
Sugar (16 Dutch standard and above)	100	77·81	76·98	72·00	91·14	118·94	135·43
Textiles, cotton—twist and yarn ..	100	154·13	142·93	140·70	143·51	156·63	218·14
,, ,, piece-goods — grey ..	100	138·27	140·46	151·91	147·33	141·22	193·13
,, ,, piece-goods — white ..	100	133·74	130·06	143·56	144·78	132·51	189·57
,, ,, piece-goods — coloured.	100	122·70	126·99	125·73	127·00	138·65	212·27
Silver (bullion)	100	99·46	110·74	108·28	105·50	96·84	127·77
Exports.							
Coffee	100	87·47	104·66	105·37	102·46	100·06	99·41
Coir manufactures	100	117·28	123·30	124·59	129·51	127·47	123·39
Grain and pulse — rice in the husk ..	100	124·84	153·15	150·00	140·35	146·00	151 83
Grain and pulse — rice not in the husk.	100	118·72	146·86	153·61	153·06	166·08	171·05
Skins, raw	100	144·73	131·41	124·40	138·01	134·26	205·33
Leather — hides, tanned or dressed ..	100	136·14	146·43	152·02	185·52	186·80	227·34
Leather — skins ,, ,, ..	100	145·12	142·17	144·08	138·68	143·31	212·82
Manures	100	159·99	154·62	172·54	201·98	207·57	243 26
Oils, coconut	100	145·78	160·87	172·16	163·71	155·27	175 81
Oil-cakes	100	138·19	126·13	139·07	136·73	117·82	137·10
Seeds — castor	100	128·62	115·94	115·60	113·22	103·33	119·04
Seeds — copra	100	170·29	181 91	198·00	187·08	177·33	181·29
Seeds — groundnuts	100	121·71	121·40	130·61	121·37	106·04	122·31
Seeds — sesamum (til or jinjili) ..	100	144·36	150·68	157·87	151·15	136·03	136·31
Spices, pepper	100	83·50	102·91	99·03	90·93	93·85	141·74
Sugar (15 Dutch standard and below).	100	132·35	140·47	110·07	125·17	159·72	148·74
Tea	100	96·32	97·03	96·46	93·35	95·05	99·86
Textiles — cotton, raw	100	180·89	161·29	166·84	157·18	130·47	184·00
Textiles — ,, twist and yarn ..	100	146·26	157·62	154·01	118·29	120·22	178·67
Textiles — ,, piece-goods ..	100	130·45	130·38	125·60	125·25	131·74	140·96

As already pointed out prices of both imported and exported goods were high. Under exports however, the prices of coffee, coir manufactures and sugar showed declines.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The following table shows the value of the import and export trade of the Presidency :—

	Imports.				Exports.			
	Average for five years ending 1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.	Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	Average for five years ending 1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.	Increase or decrease in 1916–17.
	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.
I. Food, drink and tobacco.	145·92	157·99	184·38	+ 26·39	624·69	811·83	755·30	— 56·53
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	84·04	77·45	82·05	+ 4·60	976·49	706·29	784·24	+ 77·95
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	1,032·39	884·39	981·99	+ 97·60	646·89	875·51	977·04	+ 101·53
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified.	22·54	33·37	37·17	+ 3·80	57·35	64·64	74·69	+ 10·05
Total ..	1,284·89	1,153·20	1,285·59	+ 132·39	2,305·42	2,458·27	2,591·27	+ 133·00

Imports.—The increase under group I was due to larger imports of spices, sugar and provisions and that under group III to increased values under cotton

manufactures, cotton twist and yarn, metals, machinery, paper and pasteboard, motor cars, chemicals and soap, partly set off by smaller imports of railway materials, cement and matches.

Exports.—Smaller shipments of grain and pulse and coffee, partly counterbalanced by larger shipments of spices, fish and sugar brought about a decline under group I. The increase under group II was caused by increased shipments of raw cotton, raw rubber, oils, raw skins, manures, and mica. Only exports of seeds showed a decline. Under group III the large increase was accounted for by heavy shipments of leather, drugs and medicines. These were partly counterbalanced by smaller shipments of indigo and cotton twist and yarn.

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

The following table shows the relative importance of the principal foreign articles, including treasure, imported into the Madras Presidency :—

Foreign imports.	Average for five years ending 1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.	Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	Percentage of total imports in 1916–17.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	
Cotton manufactures	3,32,04,987	2,29,54,757	2,76,28,496	+ 46,73,739	21·49
Cotton twist and yarn	1,06,73,573	1,28,80,301	1,43,46,272	+ 14,65,971	11·16
Metals and ores	1,37,32,321	1,09,36,382	1,17,10,594	+ 7,74,212	9·11
Sugar	52,65,012	58,38,809	65,02,548	+ 6,63,739	5·06
Oils	53,74,598	57,38,602	58,19,928	+ 81,326	4·53
Spices	43,77,354	48,19,459	56,68,590	+ 8,49,131	4·41
Machinery and millwork	54,77,083	38,38,932	44,88,454	+ 6,49,522	3·49
Paper and pasteboard	20,43,869	22,05,980	38,52,815	+ 16,46,835	3·00
Apparel (excluding hosiery, boots and shoes) ..	36,19,091	38,84,422	36,10,287	— 2,74,135	2·81
Railway plant and rolling-stock	80,94,981	68,51,019	35,56,410	— 32,94,609	2·77
Provisions and oilman's stores	23,15,964	24,48,970	30,57,508	+ 6,08,538	2·38
Motor cars and motor cycles	14,62,747	18,63,279	30,48,630	+ 11,85,351	2·37
Hardware	33,09,461	25,14,230	27,05,757	+ 1,91,527	2·10
Articles imported by post	16,62,235	21,71,638	26,13,390	+ 4,41,752	2·03
Chemicals and chemical preparations ..	9,73,599	16,61,020	24,40,945	+ 7,79,925	1·90
Liquors, methylated and perfumed spirits ..	19,49,699	18,77,588	21,10,393	+ 2,32,805	1·65
Soap	9,39,915	12,80,935	17,38,268	+ 4,57,333	1·35
Jute, raw and manufactures	9,81,481	13,99,359	15,40,369	+ 1,41,010	1·20
Instruments, apparatus, etc.	13,88,466	11,43,248	13,90,752	+ 2,47,504	1·08
Building and engineering materials ..	11,35,254	18,76,712	11,54,069	— 7,22,643	0·90
Drugs and medicines	11,34,735	10,81,503	11,37,439	+ 55,936	0·88
Arms and ammunition	10,86,823	9,83,288	10,85,182	+ 1,01,894	0·84
Stationery, excluding paper	7,43,614	7,02,433	10,60,329	+ 3,57,896	0·82
Animals, living	5,17,318	10,60,422	10,20,940	— 39,482	0·79
Wool, raw and manufactures	6,65,991	2,85,213	8,34,867	+ 5,49,654	0·65
Glass and glassware	16,15,995	5,10,252	8,24,619	+ 3,14,367	0·64
Rubber, raw and manufactures	2,51,630	7,31,170	7,99,471	+ 68,301	0·62
Haberdashery and millinery	8,69,573	6,72,891	7,36,785	+ 63,894	0·57
Paints and painters' materials	6,05,582	6,54,869	7,06,515	+ 51,646	0·55
Dyeing and tanning substances	13,39,948	2,88,634	6,80,964	+ 3,92,330	0·53
Silk, raw and manufactures	4,86,717	4,98,851	6,67,003	+ 1,68,152	0·52
Tobacco, raw and manufactures	4,26,341	4,50,142	6,59,176	+ 2,09,034	0·51
Wood and timber	8,12,377	7,21,784	6,08,636	— 1,13,148	0·47
Books and printed matter	4,12,348	6,48,032	6,00,557	— 47,475	0·47
Tea chests, entire or in sections	3,33,793	4,22,925	5,62,690	+ 1,39,765	0·44
Matches	11,48,724	11,31,008	5,35,474	— 5,95,534	0·42
Hides and skins, raw	5,47,824	3,57,830	5,00,138	+ 1,42,308	0·39
Fruits and vegetables	3,33,507	3,43,338	4,37,711	+ 94,373	0·34
Toys and requisites for games ..	3,28,585	3,42,723	3,82,963	+ 40,240	0·30
Belting for machinery	3,03,951	3,09,186	3,73,077	+ 63,891	0·29
Leather	3,94,936	3,70,620	3,49,885	— 20,735	0·27
Cycles	5,99,750	4,37,848	3,40,888	— 96,960	0·27
Gums and resins	2,59,241	2,52,940	2,99,367	+ 46,427	0·23
Clocks and watches	1,58,759	1,47,747	2,56,520	+ 1,08,773	0·20
Candles	2,88,099	1,79,341	2,50,220	+ 70,879	0·19
Earthenware and porcelain	3,45,974	2,62,517	2,15,236	— 47,281	0·17
Boots and shoes	2,03,044	1,72,655	1,50,358	— 22,297	0·12
Furniture and cabinetware	2,30,347	1,75,648	1,48,016	— 27,632	0·12
Manures	3,53,832	1,33,282	1,44,313	+ 11,031	0·11
Printing and lithographing materials	2,36,779	1,60,621	1,43,175	— 17,446	0·11
Jewellery and plate of gold and silver	3,20,089	1,07,829	1,11,828	+ 3,999	0·09
Coal, coke and patent fuel	3,03,466	2,31,297	42,428	— 1,88,869	0·03
Other articles	28,48,086	23,05,901	29,07,581	+ 6,01,680	2·26
Total, Merchandise ..	12,84,89,468	11,53,20,382	12,85,58,826	+ 1,32,38,444	100·00
Treasure—					
Gold	16,59,464	437	..	— 437	..
Silver	17,98,703	2,86,799	1,99,583	— 87,216	..
Total, Treasure ..	34,58,167	2,87,236	1,99,583	— 87,653	..
Total, Foreign Imports ..	13,19,47,635	11,56,07,618	12,87,58,409	+ 1,31,50,791	..

I. FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO.

The total value under the above head increased from Rs. 157·99 lakhs to Rs. 184·38 lakhs.

Liquors.—

Liquors.	Average for five years ending 1914-15.		1915-16.		1916-17.		Increase or decrease in 1916-17.	
	Gallons.	Rupees Lakhs.	Gallons.	Rupees Lakhs.	Gallons.	Rupees Lakhs.	Gallons.	Rupees Lakhs.
Ale, beer and porter, etc. ..	414,816	4·82	204,560	3·19	132,623	2·87	− 71,937	− 0·32
Spirits— Whisky	77,784	4·80	85,045	5·53	61,225	5·96	− 23,820	+ 0·43
Brandy	47,857	3·36	57,739	4·03	49,570	5·02	− 8,169	+ 0·99
Other potable spirits	26,856	1·33	22,462	1·41	29,349	2·40	+ 6,887	+ 0·99
Total, Spirits ..	152,497	9·49	165,246	10·97	140,144	13·38	− 25,102	+ 2·41
Wines	51,528	2·84	45,929	2·47	38,462	2·48	− 7,467	+ 0·01
Total, Liquors ..	618,841	17·15	415,735	16·63	311,229	18·73	− 104,506	+ 2·10

The total imports of *liquors* showed a decline of 25 per cent in quantity but the value rose by 13 per cent.

Imports of *malt liquors* fell by 35 per cent in quantity, those from the United Kingdom having decreased by 78,949 gallons, or by 40 per cent. Japan, Holland and Denmark supplied 9,321, 4,622 and 759 gallons of *beer* against 827, 2,770 and 2,022 gallons respectively, in the previous year.

Imports of *spirits* declined by 15 per cent, *whisky* showing a decrease of 28 per cent and *brandy* of 14 per cent. Twenty-nine thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven gallons of *brandy* came from France, 14,920 gallons from Holland and 4,713 gallons from the United Kingdom compared with 40,467, 7,886 and 8,987 gallons respectively, in the previous year.

Imports of *other sorts* of spirits increased by 32 per cent. Eighteen thousand six hundred and thirty-one gallons of *gin*, 8,333 gallons of *essences*, 1,644 gallons of *rum* and 741 gallons of *liqueurs* were imported against 16,415, 3,421, 1,950 and 676 gallons respectively, in 1915-16.

Imports of *wines* fell by 15 per cent, the decline being most marked under *port* and *still red wines* from the United Kingdom and France.

Provisions and oilman's stores.—Imports under this head totalled Rs. 30·58 lakhs compared with Rs. 24·49 lakhs in 1915-16. Supplies from the United Kingdom were valued at Rs. 22·94 lakhs and from the Straits Settlements at Rs. 4·24 lakhs. *Biscuits and cakes* improved from Rs. 4·86 lakhs to Rs. 6·88 lakhs, *farinaceous and patent foods* from Rs. 7·69 lakhs to Rs. 9·52 lakhs, *condensed milk* from Rs. 3·85 lakhs to Rs. 3·89 lakhs, *canned and bottled provisions* from Rs. 2·19 lakhs to Rs. 2·66 lakhs and *other sorts* of provisions from Rs. 5·90 lakhs to Rs. 7·63 lakhs.

Spices.—Imports of *spices* advanced from Rs. 48·19 lakhs to Rs. 56·69 lakhs. *Betelnuts*, which are the chief spices imported, rose from 263,191 cwt. valued at Rs. 46·46 lakhs to 287,884 cwt. valued at Rs. 52·94 lakhs, of which Ceylon and the Straits Settlements sent almost equal quantities. Imports of *pepper* increased threefold from 2,387 cwt. valued at Rs. 0·85 lakh to 6,331 cwt. valued at Rs. 2·81 lakhs: consignments from the Straits Settlements again showing an increase.

Sugar —

Sugar.	Average for five years ending 1914-15.		1915-16.		1916-17.		Increase or decrease in 1916-17.	
	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.
Refined sugar (16 Dutch standard and above)—								
From Java	306,935	34·05	252,552	41·07	162,543	30·63	— 90,009	— 10·44
,, Straits Settlements.	7,579	0·96	6,857	1·28	60,208	10·90	+ 53,351	+ 9·62
,, Mauritius	41,358	4·13	15,815	2·69	4,714	0·90	— 11,101	— 1·79
,, United Kingdom ..	982	0·18	593	0·18	145	0·06	— 448	— 0·12
,, Egypt	..	..	4,000	0·66	..	..	— 4,000	— 0·66
,, Germany	611	0·06	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Austria-Hungary ..	37,839	3·80	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, other countries ..	388	0·05	276	0·05	258	0·05	— 18	..
Total ..	395,692	43·23	280,093	45·93	227,868	42·54	— 52,225	— 3·39
Unrefined sugar (15 Dutch standard and below)—								
From Philippines ..	..	..	..	..	138,000	15·77	+ 138,000	+ 15·77
,, Mauritius ..	8,480	0·52	102,078	8·09	..	..	— 102,078	— 8·09
,, Java	19,240	1·44	1,000	0·15	..	..	— 1,000	— 0·15
,, other countries ..	260	0·02	27	..	25	..	— 2	..
Total ..	27,980	1·98	103,105	8·24	138,025	15·77	+ 34,920	+ 7·53
Molasses—								
From Java	129,101	2·78	43,373	0·69	171,256	3·13	+ 127,883	+ 2·44
,, other countries ..	181	0·01	..	..	10	..	+ 10	..
Total ..	129,282	2·79	43,373	0·69	171,266	3·13	+ 127,893	+ 2·44
Confectionery—								
From United Kingdom.	13,232	4·32	7,647	3·31	6,241	3·50	— 1,406	+ 0·19
,, other countries ..	180	0·15	117	0·06	116	0·08	— 1	+ 0·02
Total ..	13,412	4·47	7,764	3·37	6,357	3·58	— 1,407	+ 0·21
Saccharine	47	0·18	13	0·16	lb. 8	0·01	— 13	— 0·15
Total, Sugar ..	566,413	52·65	434,348	58·39	543,516	65·03	+ 109,168	+ 6·64

Imports of *sugar* improved by 25 per cent in volume and 11 per cent in value. *Refined sugar* declined by 18 per cent in quantity and 7 per cent in value. Under the arrangements made by the Royal Commission appointed to control sugar supplies, Java sent large quantities of raw sugar to the refineries in the United Kingdom. As a result Java, which is our chief source of supply, was unable to send such large quantities as usual to India and imports thence declined by 14 per cent in quantity and 2 per cent in value. The local prices of "Java white" rose from Rs. 35 per bag of 2 cwt. to Rs. 38¼ in May 1916, and to Rs. 44 at the end of November, but thereafter gradually declined the closing price being Rs. 40¼. The decrease of 69 per cent in supplies from Mauritius was likewise due to purchases by the Commission on behalf of the French Government.

Imports of *unrefined sugar* advanced by 34 per cent. This was to some extent the natural outcome of the shortage under refined sugar. Two large consignments were received for the first time from the Philippine Islands and landed at Cuddalore and Cocanada. There were no imports either from Java or Mauritius. Imports of *molasses* from Java increased fourfold and were used principally for distillery purposes.

Tobacco.—

Tobacco.	Average for five years ending 1914-15.		1915-16.		1916-17.		Increase or decrease in 1916-17.	
	Lb.	Rupees Lakhs.	Lb.	Rupees Lakhs.	Lb.	Rupees Lakhs.	Lb.	Rupees Lakhs.
Unmanufactured ..	83,436	1·16	90,531	1·29	71,979	1·16	— 18,552	— 0·13
Manufactured—								
Cigarettes	69,962	2 58	65,865	2·61	134,052	4·69	+ 68,187	+ 2·08
Cigars	1,458	0·04	478	0·02	328	0·02	— 150	..
Other sorts	23,011	0·48	25,264	0·58	25,713	0·72	+ 449	+ 0·14
Total ..	177,867	4·26	182,138	4·50	232,072	6·59	+ 49,934	+ 2·09

The total imports of *tobacco* improved by 27 per cent in quantity and 46 per cent in value; although the quantity imported was much below the pre-war average yet the value showed a 37 per cent advance.

Imports of *raw tobacco* showed a decline of 21 per cent in quantity and 10 per cent in value, those from the United Kingdom and Holland having fallen from 42,708 and 41,425 lb. to 36,594 and 31,705 lb. respectively, while those from Ceylon increased from 56 to 642 lb. A consignment of 1,908 lb. was imported from the United States of America for the first time.

Imports of *cigarettes* improved by 103 per cent in quantity. The United Kingdom supplied 133,044 lb. compared with 65,765 lb. in 1915–16. Egypt sent 906 lb. whereas none was sent in the previous year.

II. RAW MATERIALS AND PRODUCE AND ARTICLES MAINLY UNMANUFACTURED.

The total value under this head improved from Rs. 77·45 lakhs to Rs. 82·05 lakhs.

Oils.—

Mineral oils.	Average for five years ending 1914–15.		1915–16.		1916–17.		Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	
	Gallons.	Rupees Lakhs.	Gallons.	Rupees Lakhs.	Gallons.	Rupees Lakhs.	Gallons.	Rupees Lakhs.
Kerosene oil—								
From United States ..	6,810,394	29·36	4,667,388	24·00	5,681,415	29·10	+1,014,027	+ 5·10
,, Straits Settlements.	2,323,891	9·03	6,072,367	25·16	2,945,351	16·01	—3,127,016	— 9·15
,, Borneo (Dutch) ..	1,035,181	3·96	515	0·01	..	..	— 515	— 0·01
,, Sumatra	615,913	2·31	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Russia	650,127	2·38	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, other countries ..	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total, Kerosene oil ..	11,435,521	47·04	10,740,270	49·17	8,626,766	45·11	—2,113,504	— 4·06
Liquid fuel	1,359,579	1·25	1,699,511	2·04	2,801,101	4·26	+1,101,590	+ 2·22
Lubricating oils	446,920	3·43	609,499	5·13	677,024	7·67	+ 67,525	+ 2·54
Other kinds	97,131	0·70	8,670	0·07	7,815	0·14	— 845	+ 0·07
Total, Mineral oils ..	13,339,151	52·42	13,057,950	56·41	12,112,706	57·18	— 945,234	+ 0·77

The quantity of *mineral oils* showed a fall of 7 per cent but there was a slight rise, amounting to 1 per cent, in the value.

The figures for *kerosene oil* show a decrease of 20 per cent in quantity and 8 per cent in value. The average price has risen by one anna per gallon in each of the last two years and now stands at 8 annas 4 pies.

Imports of *Borneo oil* showed a further drop of 51 per cent but imports of *American oil* rose by 22 per cent. This increase is due to consignments intended for Pondicherry and Karaikkal being landed at Madras and sent by rail instead of being imported by sea direct. About four-fifths of the kerosene oil was carried in bulk and the remainder in cases. The decrease in the imports of foreign oil was partly met by larger imports of *Burma oil* which increased by about half a million gallons to 19 million gallons valued at Rs. 65·29 lakhs.

Liquid fuel showed an increase of over a million gallons, or 65 per cent.

Lubricating oils showed a rise of 11 per cent. There have been no imports of *foreign petrol* during the past four years. Coastwise imports of *petrol* advanced from 930,496 gallons to 1,337,206 gallons owing to the large number of motor vehicles which have been imported in the last two years.

Textile materials.—The imports of *raw silk* from China showed a recovery and its value amounted to Rs. 4·84 lakhs against Rs. 2·88 lakhs in 1915–16.

Wood and timber.—The cessation of imports of *jarrah wood* from Western Australia brought about a fall from Rs. 4·58 lakhs to Rs. 3·92 lakhs, or 14 per cent, under this head. Imports of *teakwood* from Siam, which ceased during the previous two years, revived and amounted to Rs. 1·67 lakhs. Fewer *palmyra rafters* were received from Ceylon.

Miscellaneous.—The imports of *artificial and mineral manures* consisting of basic slag, sulphate of potash, nitrate of soda, muriate of potash, and superphosphates, declined from Rs. 1·31 lakhs to Rs. 1·27 lakhs, the average imports before the war being Rs. 3·36 lakhs.

III. ARTICLES WHOLLY OR MAINLY MANUFACTURED.

The total value of imports under this head increased from Rs. 884·39 lakhs to Rs. 981·99 lakhs.

Apparel.—The fall of Rs. 2·96 lakhs, or 7 per cent, in the total value under this heading was due to smaller imports of *gold and silver thread* from France which decreased from Rs. 32·30 lakhs to Rs. 29·94 lakhs and resumed normal. The imposition of a higher rate of duty in 1916 does not appear therefore, to have had much effect on the total imports. The imports of gold thread by land from Pondicherry declined from Rs. 6·69 lakhs to Rs. 0·31 lakh. Smaller quantities of *drapery, hats* and *caps* were imported.

Imports of *boots and shoes* further declined from Rs. 1·73 lakhs to Rs. 1·5 lakhs.

Carriages, including cycles and motor cars.—Imports of *carriages and carts* improved from Rs. 0·72 lakh to Rs. 1·60 lakhs. *Motor vehicles and accessories* rose from Rs. 18·63 lakhs to Rs. 30·49 lakhs. The number of motor cars imported increased from 454 to 560. Imports of motor vehicles would have been considerably greater but for the embargo placed on them towards the close of December last. The demand for cheap cars still continues as will be seen from the following table :—

Motor cars.	1913-14.		1914-15.		1915-16.		1916-17.	
	Number.	Average value per car.	Number.	Average value per car.	Number.	Average value per car.	Number.	Average value per car.
		RUPEES.		RUPEES.		RUPEES.		RUPEES.
From United States of America ..	163	2,373	101	2,198	341	2,563	505	2,860
,, United Kingdom	285	4,351	201	4,060	106	3,810	49	3,715

The number of *motor cycles* also went up from 279 to 360 of which 305 were of British manufacture. One hundred and seven *motor wagons* (87 from the United States of America and 20 from the United Kingdom) valued at Rs. 5·69 lakhs were imported against 6 valued at Rs. 0·43 lakh in the previous year.

Imports of *cycles and accessories* further declined from Rs. 4·38 lakhs to Rs. 3·41 lakhs : most of the consignments came from the United Kingdom.

Chemicals, drugs and medicines.—The value of chemicals imported (other than chemical manures) again showed a remarkable increase. In 1914-15, Rs. 11·88 lakhs' worth were imported, in 1915-16 Rs. 16·61 lakhs and this year Rs. 24·41 lakhs. The main factor in this increase was the large quantity of *soda compounds* (especially cyanide of sodium for the Mysore gold mines) which was imported. Eighty-two per cent of the chemicals came from the United Kingdom. Under *drugs and medicines* imports of *camphor* decreased by 31 per cent in quantity and 23 per cent in value ; practically the whole coming from Japan.

Proprietary and patent medicines improved from Rs. 1·15 lakhs to Rs. 1·87 lakhs

Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments.—*Clocks and watches* improved from Rs. 1·48 lakhs to Rs. 2·57 lakhs and *cutlery* from Rs. 0·73 lakh to Rs. 1·1 lakhs.

There was an increase of 8 per cent in the value of *hardware* but imports were still far below the average imports before the war, showing that other countries have not yet taken the place formerly held by Germany and Austria in this trade. Seventy-three per cent of the imports came from the United Kingdom, 11 per cent from the United States and 4 per cent from Japan.

Instruments and apparatus showed an increase of Rs. 2·48 lakhs to Rs. 13·91 lakhs. This was mainly due to the increase in the number of electrical appliances received.

Dyes and Colours.—When compared with the previous year there was some recovery in *dyeing and tanning substances* imports of which amounted to Rs. 6·81 lakhs against Rs. 2·89 lakhs, but they were far below the pre-war averages. The present position of the imports of alizarine and aniline dyes is given in the following table :—

	Alizarine.				Aniline.			
	Average for five years ending 1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.	Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	Average for five years ending 1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.	Increase or decrease in 1916–17.
	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.
From United Kingdom	122,258	..	50,772	+ 50,772	4,510	3,008	45,717	+ 42,709
,, Belgium	597,817	20,720	..	— 20,720	51,944	3,422	..	— 3,422
,, Germany	566,906	10,528	..	— 10,528	265,595	4,034	..	— 4,034
,, other countries . ..	2,150	..	..	..	6,175	891	3,523	+ 2,632
Total ..	1,289,131	31,248	50,772	+ 19,524	328,224	11,355	49,240	+ 37,885

Imports of *alizarine* amounted to 50,772 lb. valued at Rs. 3·04 lakhs, and these came from the United Kingdom. In 1915–16 10,528 lb. were imported from Germany and 20,720 lb. from Belgium by prize vessels, and there were no imports from the United Kingdom. Prices of both alizarine and aniline were phenomenally high, the average price per lb. of the former rising from As. 8 in 1914–15 to about Rs. 4 in 1915–16 and to Rs. 6 in the current year.

Imports of *aniline dyes* amounted to 49,240 lb. valued at Rs. 2·26 lakhs against 11,355 lb. valued at Rs. 0·43 lakh. A small quantity of *synthetic indigo* amounting to 4 cwt. valued at Rs. 940 was imported from the United Kingdom.

Imports of *paints and painters' materials* improved from Rs. 6·55 lakhs to Rs. 7·07 lakhs.

Glassware and earthenware.—Although there was some recovery in the imports of *glassware* (from Rs. 5·10 lakhs to Rs. 8·25 lakhs), yet they represented only 48 per cent of the annual average imports before the war. The United Kingdom supplied 53 per cent and Japan 20 per cent against 43 and 33 per cent respectively, in the previous year. Before the war the shares of these two countries were only 11 and 1 per cent; Austria-Hungary, Germany and Belgium's shares being 55, 15 and 13 per cent respectively. Imports of *bottles and phials* rose in value from Rs. 1·36 lakhs to Rs. 2·35 lakhs and those of *sheets and plates* from Rs. 1·25 lakhs to Rs. 3·02 lakhs. Imports of *glass bangles* and *beads*, including *false pearls*, have been considerably affected by the war: their average imports before the war were Rs. 7·48 lakhs and Rs. 2·8 lakhs respectively, but have now dwindled down to Rs. 0·33 and 0·92 lakh respectively.

Imports of *earthenware* amounted to Rs. 2·15 lakhs compared with Rs. 2·63 lakhs in 1915–16.

Machinery of all kinds including belting for machinery.—

Machinery.	1915-16. Rupees Lakhs.	1916-17. Rupees Lakhs.	Increase or decrease in 1916-17. Rupees Lakhs.
Textile machinery	6·04	6·55	+ 0·51
Sewing and knitting machines	2·93	6·29	+ 3·36
Electrical machinery	3·65	6·13	+ 2·48
Mining machinery	5·19	6·09	+ 0·90
Prime-movers other than electrical	7·93	4·43	— 3·50
Belting for machinery	3·09	3·73	+ 0·64
Tea factory machinery	1·69	2·10	+ 0·41
Rice and flour mill machinery	0·97	1·72	+ 0·75
Typewriters	1·01	1·01	..
Boilers	1·20	0·82	— 0·38
Sugar mill machinery	0·61	0·52	— 0·09
Agricultural machinery	0·02	0·01	— 0·01
Other sorts	7·15	9·21	+ 2·06
Total	41·48	48·61	+ 7·13

Imports of *machinery* improved by Rs. 7·13 lakhs, or 17 per cent. With the exception of prime-movers (other than electrical), boilers and sugar machinery, all the sub-heads showed increases. The increase under electrical machinery was due to the larger demands for electric installations, and that under sewing and knitting machines to local stocks having reached a low level. The United Kingdom sent 84 per cent of the machinery and the United States of America 12 per cent.

Metals—Iron and Steel.—

Iron and steel.	1915-16. Tons.	1915-16. Rupees Lakhs.	1916-17. Tons.	1916-17. Rupees Lakhs.	Increase or decrease in 1916-17. Tons.	Increase or decrease in 1916-17. Rupees Lakhs.
Iron—						
Bars and channel	2,108	4·35	3,328	10·07	+ 1,220	+ 5·72
Steel—						
Bars and channel	5,907	9·45	1,753	5·02	— 4,154	— 4·43
Angle and spring	1,105	1·76	693	1·94	— 412	+ 0·18
Cast	285	1·02	365	1·95	+ 80	+ 0·93
Iron or steel—						
Sheets and plates	10,439	26·26	6,644	26·78	— 3,795	+ 0·52
Pipes and tubes	7,221	14·14	8,358	18·83	+ 1,137	+ 4·69
Nails, screws, rivets and washers	3,396	11·13	2,521	10·77	— 875	— 0·36
Hoops and strips	1,550	3·29	2,770	8·96	+ 1,220	+ 5·67
Wire	527	2·01	560	3·53	+ 33	+ 1·52
Rails, chairs and fish plates	425	0·90	1,082	1·94	+ 657	+ 1·04
Beams, pillars, etc.	3,227	5·52	780	1·88	— 2,447	— 3·64
Bolts and nuts	361	1·48	293	1·74	— 68	+ 0·26
Other sorts	1,734	3·11	1,494	2·35	— 240	— 0·76
Total	38,285	84·42	30,641	95·76	— 7,644	+ 11·34

The extension of Government control over iron and steel industries in the United Kingdom, the high prices at the supplying centres and the shortage of tonnage, all combined to bring about a decline of 20 per cent in quantity. The urgent demand for the available material however brought about a rise of 13 per cent in value; and the local price of iron has more than doubled since the commencement of the war. During the five years ending 1913-14 the average value of iron was Rs. 140 per ton and rose to Rs. 170 in 1914-15, to Rs. 220 in 1915-16 and to Rs. 310 in 1916-17. Previous to the war the United Kingdom supplied 45 per cent of the iron and steel imported into this Presidency. This share increased to 66 per cent in 1914-15, to 70 per cent in 1915-16 and to 80 per cent in 1916-17. Belgium prior to the war sent 40 per cent. Supplies from America have fallen from 22 per cent in 1915-16 to 13 per cent.

Imports of *bar iron* improved by 58 per cent in volume and 131 per cent in value. The prevailing high prices of imported bars gave an impetus to bars of Pondicherry manufacture and these rose from 4,400 tons valued at Rs. 5·23 lakhs to 5,015 tons valued at Rs. 8·33 lakhs.

On the other hand *steel bars* showed a decline of 70 per cent and *plates and sheets* of 36 per cent. The increase under *pipes and tubes* was due to larger imports for the Madras water-works, and that under *hoops and strips* to larger demands for baling cotton and coir yarn.

Metals, other than iron and steel.—

Metals, other than iron and steel.	Average for five years ending 1914-15.		1915-16.		1916-17.		Increase or decrease in 1916-17.	
	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.
Copper—								
Mixed or yellow metal ..	58,722	28·62	10,770	6·19	4,158	4·24	— 6,612	— 1·95
Braziers and sheets	7,446	4·31	2,726	1·76	372	0·37	— 2,354	— 1·39
Other sorts	6,346	4·19	3,848	3·18	1,839	2·22	— 2,009	— 0·96
Total, Copper ..	72,514	37·12	17,344	11·13	6,369	6·83	— 10,975	— 4·30
Tin	2,945	4·17	2,998	3·83	3,945	5·54	+ 947	+ 1·71
Lead	12,515	2·14	12,029	3·03	13,439	4·21	+ 1,410	+ 1·18
Brass	874	0·58	585	0·33	1,549	1·54	+ 964	+ 1·21
Zinc or spelter	6,830	1·57	1,989	1·09	1,655	1·29	— 334	+ 0·20
Solder	446	0·33	736	0·50	893	0·74	+ 157	+ 0·24
Quicksilver	111	0·20	158	0·51	147	0·61	— 11	+ 0·10
German silver	1,985	1·48	163	0·14	69	0·16	— 94	+ 0·02
Aluminium	8,092	5·32	4,442	3·85	2	..	— 4,440	— 3·85
Metals, unenumerated ..	981	2·42	672	0·53	604	0·42	— 68	— 0·11
Total, Metals, other than iron and steel	107,293	55·33	41,116	24·94	28,672	21·34	— 12,444	— 3·60

There was an unprecedented demand for *copper* both in Europe and America for the huge munition requirements and consequently exports to India diminished greatly. There was a fall of 63 per cent in quantity and 38 per cent in value. The price in England of standard copper rose from £100 per ton in February 1916 to £145 in the middle of May but receded to £88 in July and again rose to £153 early in February 1917. The United Kingdom supplied 82 per cent against 73 per cent in 1915-16 and Japan 13 per cent against 7 per cent. Imports of *yellow metal sheets* showed a decline of 61 per cent and those of *braziers and sheets* 86 per cent. The opening price per candy of 500 lb. of yellow metal sheets was Rs. 375 and the closing price Rs. 505. Imports of *tin* expanded by 31 per cent as a result of larger receipts from the Straits Settlements. Large quantities of *lead* sheets for tea chests were received from the United Kingdom and imports of this metal increased by 11 per cent. Only 2 cwt. of *aluminium*, valued at Rs. 347, were imported.

Paper, pasteboard and stationery.—

Paper and pasteboard.	1915-16.		1916-17.		Increase or decrease in 1916-17.	
	Quantity.	Rupees Lakhs.	Quantity.	Rupees Lakhs.	Quantity.	Rupees Lakhs.
Printing paper .. .. Cwt.	63,449	9·53	47,071	15·85	— 16,378	+ 6·32
Writing ,, ...	..	4·84	..	13·61	..	+ 8·77
Packing ,, ... Cwt.	6,382	0·78	5,221	1·17	— 1,161	+ 0·39
Other kinds of paper .. ,,	48,157	5·61	17,638	6·70	— 30,519	+ 1·09
Pasteboard, millboard, etc. ,,	14,336	1·30	9,159	1·20	— 5,177	— 0·10
Total ..	..	22·06	..	38·53	..	+ 16·47

The total value of imports of *paper and pasteboard* amounted to Rs. 38·53 lakhs against Rs. 22·06 lakhs, an increase of 74 per cent. This increase in value was the result of inflated prices of the articles whereas the quantities imported declined.

The decrease in the quantity of printing paper was the net result of smaller imports from the United Kingdom, Norway and Sweden, and larger imports from the United States. The market value for the last year has been about As. 6 per lb. against the pre-war average of As. 2–4 per lb. The decrease in the imports from Norway and Sweden was due to abnormal imports of cheaper kinds of paper in 1915–16, and the increase in the case of imports from the United States was due to the merchants seeking a new source of supply in anticipation of shortages from the United Kingdom as a result of the restrictions placed there on imports of paper-making materials. Of the total imports of paper and pasteboard the United Kingdom's share was the same as in the previous year, viz., 71 per cent and that of Norway and Sweden 16 per cent against 23 per cent in 1915–16. The shares of the United States and Japan, whose trade in previous years in these articles was inconsiderable, amounted to 7 and 4 per cent respectively.

Imports of *stationery* improved from Rs. 7·02 lakhs to Rs. 10·6 lakhs of which Rs. 8·26 lakhs' worth came from the United Kingdom and Rs. 1·47 lakhs' worth from Japan as against Rs. 6·14 lakhs' and Rs. 0·41 lakh's worth respectively, in 1915–16.

Railway plant and rolling-stock.—The total imports again declined from Rs. 68·51 lakhs to Rs. 35·56 lakhs, or by 48 per cent, *carriages and wagons* falling from Rs. 30·27 lakhs to Rs. 18·71 lakhs, *locomotive engines and tenders* from Rs. 23·35 lakhs to Rs. 4·03 lakhs and *materials for construction* from Rs. 14·89 lakhs to Rs. 12·82 lakhs. Of the total imports 75 per cent came from the United Kingdom and 25 per cent from the United States against 95 and 2 per cent respectively, in 1915–16.

Yarns and textile fabrics.—The value of imports under this head improved from Rs. 386·10 lakhs to Rs. 454·42 lakhs.

Cotton goods.—

Cotton goods.	Average for five years ending 1914–15.		1915–16.		1916–17.		Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	
	Quantity.	Rupees Lakhs.	Quantity.	Rupees Lakhs.	Quantity.	Rupees Lakhs.	Quantity.	Rupees Lakhs.
I. Twist and yarn—	LB.		LB.		LB.		LB.	
From United Kingdom ..	10,403,932	102·71	11,862,648	127·00	9,668,936	143·28	− 2,193,712	+ 16·28
,, other countries ..	382,627	4·03	267,663	1·80	32,929	0·18	− 234,734	− 1·62
Total, Twist and yarn ..	10,786,559	106·74	12,130,311	128·80	9,701,865	143·46	− 2,428,446	+ 14·66
II. Piece-goods—								
Coloured, printed or dyed—	YDS.		YDS.		YDS.		YDS.	
From United Kingdom ..	46,773,075	96·16	25,311,992	56·89	31,314,631	108·68	+ 6,002,639	+ 51·79
,, other countries ..	277,870	0·98	441,277	1·28	485,243	1·43	+ 43,966	+ 0·15
Total, Coloured ..	47,050,945	97·14	25,753,269	58·17	31,799,874	110·11	+ 6,046,605	+ 51·94
Grey—								
From United Kingdom ..	79,715,700	152 03	57,141,538	105·60	35,176,330	89·03	− 21,965,208	− 16·57
,, other countries ..	106,717	0·21	249,840	0·39	128,331	0·24	− 121,509	− 0·15
Total, Grey ..	79,822,417	152·24	57,391,378	105·99	35,304,661	89·27	− 22,086,717	− 16·72
White—								
From United Kingdom ..	34,185,061	76·98	27,628,423	59·44	22,689,531	69·93	− 4,938,892	+ 10·49
,, other countries ..	433,620	1·21	589,740	1·54	201,782	0·66	− 387,958	− 0·88
Total, White ..	34,618,681	78·19	28,218,163	60·98	22,891,313	70·59	− 5,326,850	+ 9·61
Other sorts of piece-goods ..	214,161	0·33	431,060	0·70	357,077	0·76	− 73,983	+ 0·06
Total, Piece-goods ..	161,706,204	327·90	111,793,870	225·84	90,352,925	270·73	− 21,440,945	+ 44·89
Other cotton fabrics ..	..	4·15	..	3·71	..	5·56	..	+ 1·85
Grand Total ..	..	438·79	..	358·35	..	419·75	..	+ 61·40

The total value of imports of *cotton goods*, representing 33 per cent of the total foreign imports, increased by 17 per cent. The market at Madras showed considerable fluctuations during the year and it often happened that piece-goods, bought in a moment of considerable activity, actually arrived to a deadly dull market. The chief feature of the year was the speculative purchases of coloured yarns and goods owing to the general view that the scarcity of dye stuffs would cause a considerable rise in the price of dyed goods. Large stocks were carried forward from the previous year's purchases and these, added to the continual rise of prices in Manchester tended to reduce the imports in grey and white piece-goods. Fairly brisk sales took place as usual from September to November and though prices were high a fair amount of

buying from Manchester took place to replenish stocks. A sudden rise in prices at home however, put further buying out of the question and business practically ceased from January to March 1917. During these last months local prices rose 25 to 50 per cent owing to shortages of certain qualities in the bazaar.

Imports of *cotton twist and yarn* declined by 29 per cent in quantity but rose by 11 per cent in value, the average value per lb. having risen from Rs. 1–1–0 to Rs. 1–8–0 *Mule yarn* declined by 56 per cent, the high rates prevailing in Manchester for mule yarn, coupled with the absence of dyes to colour these grey yarns, enabled Indian mills to compete successfully in producing yarns, especially counts 31 to 40, at a cheaper rate than home supplies. Under *coloured yarns*, the common counts (1 to 20 and 31 to 40) were in good demand and as there were no dyestuffs to colour the country-made yarns weavers often resorted to using imported 40s doubled in place of the usual country-dyed 20s. Imports of other descriptions of yarn failed to maintain the improvement of the previous year and declined by 24 per cent.

The total imports of *cotton piece-goods* further decreased by 19 per cent in quantity, but increased by 20 per cent in value. The decrease in quantity was the net result of smaller imports of *grey and white piece-goods*, partly set off by larger imports of *coloured goods*, which expanded by 23 per cent in quantity and 89 per cent in value. *Saris and scarves* rose by Rs. 27·4 lakhs, *prints* and *chintz* by Rs. 13·99 lakhs, *cambrics* including *madapollams*, by Rs. 2·75 lakhs and *shirtings* by Rs. 1·99 lakhs. Under *grey goods* there was a decline of 38 per cent in quantity and 16 per cent in value. *Longcloths* and *shirtings* declined by Rs. 15·06 lakhs owing to the substitution of country-made cloth manufactured in the mills at Bombay, Sholapur, Ahmedabad, etc. *Dhotis*, *saris and scarves* fell away by Rs. 9·36 lakhs; most of the poorer classes favour the use of grey dhotis with coloured borders and the coarser Indian woven cloth with plenty of substance in it suits their requirements admirably. *Jaconets*, *madapollams*, *mulls and cambrics* improved by Rs. 7·48 lakhs, and suffered less than other grey goods because it is not so easy to replace these fabrics, made of finer yarn, by locally-made substitutes. Under *white goods jaconets* including *madapollams*, increased by Rs. 16·30 lakhs, and *dhotis*, *saris and scarves*, which are not produced locally to any extent, increased by Rs. 1·85 lakhs while *nainsooks* decreased by Rs. 5·36 lakhs and *longcloths and shirtings* by Rs. 3·94 lakhs, as these can be replaced easily by bleaching the grey cloths and therefore when prices are high these goods always show a falling off. The net result shows an increase of Rs. 9·61 lakhs, or 16 per cent, in the value of white goods although the quantity declined by 19 per cent. The considerable increase under *coloured goods* is due to the continued demand arising from the desire to have bright coloured goods whatever the price may be. As it has been very difficult to obtain dyeing materials locally there have been increased importations from home.

The trade in cotton piece-goods was almost entirely confined to the United Kingdom, only 1 per cent coming from other sources.

There was an increase under *other cotton fabrics* as there were larger imports of hosiery from the United Kingdom and Japan and sewing thread from the United Kingdom.

Haberdashery and millinery.—Imports improved from Rs. 6·73 lakhs to Rs. 7·37 lakhs: Rs. 5·05 lakhs' worth came from the United Kingdom, Rs. 0·96 lakh's worth from Japan and Rs. 0·85 lakh's worth from France.

Jute and wool.—Imports of *jute manufactures*, which consisted almost entirely of reimports of old rice gunny bags from Ceylon, rose from Rs. 13·99 lakhs to Rs. 15·4 lakhs. There were large consignments of woollen piece-goods from the United Kingdom and therefore imports of *woollen manufactures* expanded from Rs. 2·85 lakhs to Rs. 8·35 lakhs.

Other minor items.—Imports of *arms, ammunition and military stores* improved from Rs. 9·83 lakhs to Rs. 10·85 lakhs.

Imports of *cement*, mainly from the United Kingdom, declined from Rs. 16·04 lakhs to Rs. 8·58 lakhs owing to the high cost and the difficulty of obtaining supplies. Imports of *safety matches* declined from Rs. 6·13 lakhs to Rs. 3·94 lakhs and other

matches from Rs. 5·18 lakhs to Rs. 1·41 lakhs. Japan sent Rs. 3·01 lakhs' worth of matches, Sweden Rs. 1·21 lakhs, and Norway Rs. 0·63 lakh against Rs. 4·40, Rs. 4·77 and Rs. 1·60 lakhs respectively, in 1915–16. Imports of *soap* improved from Rs. 12·81 to Rs. 17·38 lakhs. Household and laundry soaps increased by Rs. 2·71 lakhs and toilet soap by Rs. 1·89 lakhs, the imports being almost entirely from the United Kingdom.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS AND UNCLASSIFIED.

The total value of imports under this head rose from Rs. 33·37 lakhs to Rs. 37·17 lakhs.

Imports of *living animals* showed a decrease of Rs. 0·4 lakh. One thousand seven hundred and thirty-four horses valued at Rs. 9·85 lakhs were imported against 2,180 valued at Rs. 10·38 lakhs in 1915–16. One thousand six hundred and ninety horses came from Victoria, 30 from the Straits Settlements, and 14 from Ceylon.

Articles imported by post amounted to Rs. 26·13 lakhs against Rs. 21·72 lakhs. The United Kingdom sent to the value of Rs. 12·32 lakhs, Japan Rs. 4·91 lakhs, Ceylon Rs. 4·88 lakhs, the Straits Settlements Rs. 1·62 lakhs, and France Rs. 1·33 lakhs against Rs. 5·65, 3·45, 7·65, 1·36 and 1·79 lakhs respectively, in the previous year.

Foreign Exports.

FOREIGN EXPORTS.

The following table gives the value and relative importance of the principal articles of Indian produce and manufacture, including treasure, exported from the Madras Presidency to foreign countries :—

Indian produce and manufactures.	Average for five years ending 1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.	Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	Percentage of total exports in 1916–17.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	
Leather	3,60,66,498	4,49,72,985	5,87,23,728*	+1,37,50,743	22·85
Grain and pulse	2,05,98,352	4,05,97,512	3,30,22,174	— 75,75,338	12·85
Cotton, raw	3,49,52,663	1,74,09,658	2,39,33,311	+ 65,23,653	9·32
Seeds	4,13,65,037	2,86,62,155	2,14,19,999	— 72,42,156	8·34
Tea	1,34,75,675	1,73,76,053	1,75,85,439	+ 2,09,386	6·84
Cotton manufactures	93,86,908	1,24,54,434	1,21,76,035	— 2,78,399	4·74
Rubber, raw and manufactures	41,82,518	96,41,286	1,14,43,059	+ 18,01,773	4·45
Oils	43,61,940	53,67,618	77,81,856	+ 24,14,238	3·03
Coffee	1,45,24,777	92,42,013	75,36,078	— 17,05,935	2·93
Spices	58,89,288	59,58,274	75,00,663	+ 15,42,389	2·92
Dyeing and tanning substances	14,02,451	1,16,68,650	73,84,380	— 42,84,270	2·87
Coir, raw and manufactures	75,93,309	63,70,660	63,98,489	+ 27.829	2·49
Oil-cakes	50,24,821	51,51,367	48,92,063	— 2,59,304	1·90
Articles exported by post	30,68,383	40,38,667	46,86,055	+ 6,47,388	1·82
Hides and skins, raw	33,38,900	26,72,416	46,53,900	+ 19,81,484	1·81
Drugs and medicines	8,21,685	12,69,288	34,97,059	+ 22,27,771	1·36
Fruits and vegetables	27,55,581	33,28,292	31,70,273	— 1,58,019	1·23
Fish (excluding canned fish)	23,50,087	23,26,243	30,58,420	+ 7,32,177	1·19
Animals, living	23,58,681	15,86,238	19,98,383	+ 4,12,145	0·78
Fibre for brushes and brooms	14,48,519	17,27,545	19,84,713	+ 2,57,168	0·77
Jute, raw and manufactures	23,70,411	12,69,163	17,11,680	+ 4,42,517	0·67
Sugar	11,52,468	5,16,548	17,07,548	+ 11,91,000	0·66
Wood and timber	17,52,449	14,35,018	15,59,870	+ 1,24,852	0·61
Manures	4,84,218	8,05,201	14,90,582	+ 6,85,381	0·58
Cotton, twist and yarn	26,14,620	25,86,199	11,68,905	— 14,17,294	0·46
Hemp, raw and manufactures	7,16,624	7,86,098	9,54,243	+ 1,68,145	0·37
Tobacco, raw and manufactures	8,94,987	8,64.257	9,51,463	+ 87,206	0·37
Provisions and oilman's stores	7,44,063	7,91,705	9,29,118	+ 1,37,413	0·36
Mica	5,82,003	3,75,116	6,05,161	+ 2,30,045	0·24
Silk, raw and manufactures	2,82,286	3,26,489	5,73,010	+ 2,46,521	0·22
Building and engineering materials	2,70,501	3,77,517	5,08,392	+ 1,30,875	0·20
Wool, raw and manufactures	3,79 581	3,61,890	3,59,114	— 2,776	0·14
Metals and ores	3,41,217	37,134	2,61,105	+ 2,23,971	0·10
Fodder, bran and pollard	2,93,675	1,27,959	53,165	— 74,794	0·02
Horn and hornmeal	2,74,669	25,870	24,666	— 1,204	0·01
Other articles	24,22,113	11,61,072	12,53,864	+ 92,792	0·50
Total, Merchandise	23,05,41,958	24,36,68,590	25,69,57,963	+1,32,89,373	100·00
Treasure—					
Gold	9,81,465	2,32,863	7,955	— 2,24,908	..
Silver	52,79,935	32,23,289	89,90,210	+ 57,66,921	..
Total	62,61,400	34,56,152	89,98,165	+ 55,42,013	..
Total, Exports	23,68,03,358	24,71,24,742	26,59,56,128	+1,88,31,386	..

* Excludes Rs. 1,78,63,434 the value of exports of tanned cow hides shipped on Government account.

I. FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO.

The total value under this head declined from Rs. 811 lakhs to Rs. 754·7 lakhs.

Grain, pulse and flour.—

Grain and pulse.	Average for five years ending 1914-15.		1915-16.		1916-17.		Increase or decrease in 1916-17.	
	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.
Rice in the husk—								
To Ceylon	372,885	12·09	250,143	8·64	440,616	15·84	+ 190,473	+ 7·20
,, other countries.	156	0·01	24	..	20	..	— 4	..
Total ..	373,041	12·10	250,167	8·64	440,636	15·84	+ 190,469	+ 7·20
Rice not in the husk—								
To Ceylon	2,336,369	165·42	4,301,049	360·21	3,243,340	281·11	— 1,057,709	— 79·10
,, Mauritius, etc..	229,663	0·25	349,950	24·29	318,069	21·36	— 31,881	— 2·93
,, Straits Settlements.	66,443	4·96	64,374	4·75	50,398	4·07	— 13,976	— 0·68
,, United Kingdom.	2,544	0·16	21,712	1·40	2	..	— 21,710	— 1·40
,, Réunion ..	64,269	3·87	..	..	47,134	3·18	+ 47,134	+ 3·18
,, other countries.	35,955	16·67	47,378	3·43	22,916	1·85	— 24,462	— 1·58
Total ..	2,735,243	191·33	4,784,463	394·08	3,681,859	311·57	— 1,102,604	— 82·51
Total, Rice ..	..	..	5,034,630	402·72	4,122,495	327·41	— 912,135	— 75·31
Pulse	36,195	1·94	33,768	2·20	35,420	2·30	+ 1,652	+ 0·10
Gram	11,942	0·47	10,186	0·45	12,000	0·49	+ 1,814	+ 0·04
Jawar and bajra ..	851	0·04	1,234	0·06	174	0·01	— 1,060	— 0·05
Other grains	1,900	0·11	5,096	0·55	351	0·01	— 4,745	— 0·54
Total, Grain and pulse.	3,159,172	205·99	5,084,914	405·98	4,170,440	330·22	— 914,474	— 75·76

The exports of *grain and pulse* declined by 18 per cent in quantity and 19 per cent in value. Exports of *paddy* (rice unhusked) improved by 76 per cent in quantity and 83 per cent in value, while those of *rice* (rice husked) declined by 23 per cent in quantity and 21 per cent in value. Shipments of rice and paddy to Ceylon represented 90 per cent of the total exports under this head and declined by 19 per cent both in quantity and value. This was partly due to want of tonnage and partly to larger supplies from Burma to that colony. The average value of rice rose from Rs. 8–3–9 to Rs. 8–7–5 per cwt. Shipments to the Straits Settlements declined by 22 per cent and those to Mauritius by 9 per cent. The variations under *other grains* are small and call for no remarks.

Spices.—

Spices	Average for five years ending 1914–15.		1915–16.		1916–17.		Increase or decrease in 1916-17.	
	Lb.	Rupees Lakhs.	Lb.	Rupees Lakhs.	Lb.	Rupees Lakhs.	Lb.	Rupees Lakhs.
Pepper	12,000,850	35·12	13,147,510	38·19	11,920,958	52·24	— 1,226,552	+ 14·05
Chillies	7,856,535	12·41	8,050,911	15·31	9,960,144	18·43	+ 1,909,233	+ 3·12
Ginger	3,969,893	9·20	2,003,456	3·65	1,326,138	2·73	— 677,318	— 0·92
Cardamoms	83,440	1·47	108,021	1·79	59,267	0·95	— 48,754	— 0·84
Other sorts	172,357	0·70	149,429	0·64	160,065	0·66	+ 10,636	+ 0·02
Total ..	24,083,075	58·90	23,459,327	59·58	23,426,572	75·01	— 32,755	+ 15·43

There was a very slight decline in the quantity of *spices* exported, but the value rose by 26 per cent. During the first nine months of the year under review shipments of *pepper* fell away by 47 per cent in quantity and 21 per cent in value when compared with those in the corresponding period of 1915–16. During the last three months however, shipments increased sixfold in quantity and ninefold in value. The final figures for the whole year showed a decline of 9 per cent in quantity and a rise of 36 per cent in value, the average value having risen from As. 4–8 to As. 7–0 per lb. The 1916 crop was a good one and the demand was very brisk; consequently pepper fetched high prices. Shipments to the United States and the United Kingdom decreased from Rs. 18·24 and Rs. 15·22 lakhs to Rs. 16·90 and Rs. 14·21 lakhs respectively, the pre-war average shipments to these countries being Rs. 5·34 and Rs. 3·17 lakhs. Shipments to France and Italy however, showed a marked recovery from Rs. 1·51 and Rs. 2·13 lakhs to Rs. 13·21 and Rs. 4·95 lakhs respectively.

Foreign Exports.

Exports of *ginger* receded by 33 per cent in quantity and 25 per cent in value.

There were larger shipments of *chillies* to Ceylon and the Straits Settlements.

Sugar.—There was a great recovery in the exports of *sugar* (mostly unrefined sugar) from 60,897 cwt. valued at Rs. 5·17 lakhs to 220,684 cwt. valued at Rs. 17·08 lakhs and exports almost reached the level of 1912–13. The area of sugarcane under cultivation increased by 20 per cent and the total yield by 31 per cent. The outturn would have been still larger had not the crop suffered by the unusually heavy north-east monsoon rains in the Circars and by the devastations of the severe cyclone in South Arcot in November 1916. The price of *jaggery* in 1914–15 and 1915–16 in different districts varied from 25 to 60 per cent above that which prevailed in 1913–14, but in 1916–17 this high level was not maintained and the average price fell during the year from Rs. 8–1–0 to Rs. 7–8–0 per cwt. Shipments to Ceylon improved from Rs. 3·53 lakhs to Rs. 14·77 lakhs. A large quantity of palm jaggery was exported to Ceylon on account of Ceylon sugar refineries. Shipments of unrefined sugar to the United Kingdom, which before the war amounted to Rs. 8·5 lakhs, practically ceased.

Tea.—The total exports amounted to 24·91 million lb. valued at Rs. 175·85 lakhs against 25·84 million lb. valued at Rs. 173·76 lakhs, a decrease of 4 per cent in quantity and an increase of 1 per cent in value. The decrease is ascribed to want of tonnage. In March restrictions were placed on exports to the United Kingdom but the effect of these restrictions will only be felt in 1917–18. The average price rose from As. 10–9 to As. 11–4 per lb. The acreage under tea was reported to be 73,402 in 1916 against 68,288 acres in 1915. Shipments to the United Kingdom and Ceylon declined from 82 and 16 per cent to 67 and 15 per cent respectively, while those to Canada rose from 1 per cent to 17 per cent.

Coffee.—

Coffee.	Average for five years ending 1914–15.		1915–16.		1916–17.		Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	
	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.
To United Kingdom ..	84,578	50·06	78,596	45·32	65,006	37·69	— 13,590	— 7·63
,, France	109,135	58·95	46,141	25·71	34,701	19·54	— 11,440	— 6·17
,, Ceylon	11,702	6·11	13,277	6·89	14,453	7·09	+ 1,176	+ 0·20
,, Victoria	5,715	3·24	6,983	4·39	5,548	3·10	— 1,435	— 1·29
,, New South Wales ..	2,893	1·67	3,213	2·00	4,110	2·30	+ 897	+ 0·30
,, Native States in Arabia other than Muscat.	2,495	1·30	7,101	3·47	3,541	1·73	— 3,560	— 1·74
,, Asiatic Turkey ..	4,811	2·66	..	..	2,195	1·10	+ 2,195	+ 1·10
,, Bahrein Islands ..	4,344	2·44	4,795	2·28	2,027	0·98	— 2,768	— 1·30
,, Austria-Hungary ..	11,145	6·72	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Belgium	7,621	4·02	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Germany	7,963	4·66	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, other countries ..	6,277	3·42	4,245	2·36	3,313	1·83	— 932	— 0·53
Total ..	258,679	145·25	164,351	92·42	134,894	75·36	— 29,457	— 17·06

The season's crop was delayed by tardy blossoming showers and late rains in October and November, but when it was harvested it turned out better than that of the previous season. Prices which were high at the beginning of the season, subsequently declined, and as freights to consuming countries were also high, exports declined 17 per cent in quantity and 18 per cent in value. During March 1917 more than half the quantity exported during the whole year was shipped. As in the previous year 48 per cent went to the United Kingdom whereas France increased her receipts from 24 to 26 per cent.

Tobacco.—Exports of *tobacco* increased by nearly a million lb. and amounted to 3·95 million lb. The value likewise rose by almost a lakh and reached Rs. 9·51 lakhs. The trade in *leaf tobacco* amounted to 3·44 million lb. valued at Rs. 6·11 lakhs. As usual the chief consumers were the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States. A quantity of 850,120 lb., valued at Rs. 1·14 lakhs, was sent to the United Kingdom. Shipments of *cigars*, 80 per cent of which went to the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States, further declined from 748,908 lb. to 466,346 lb. in quantity and from Rs. 4·25 lakhs to Rs. 3·11 lakhs in value. Higher grade cigars to the value of Rs. 0·82 lakh were exported to the United Kingdom against Rs. 0·66 lakh's worth in 1915–16.

II. RAW MATERIALS AND PRODUCE AND ARTICLES MAINLY UNMANUFACTURED.

The total value of exports under this head increased from Rs. 706·03 lakhs to Rs. 784·18 lakhs.

Hides and skins, raw.—

Hides and skins, raw.	Average for five years ending 1914–15.		1915–16.		1916–17.		Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	
	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.
Hides, raw	1,857	0·52	609	0·38	677	0·50	+ 68	+ 0·12
Skins, raw—								
To United Kingdom.	3,109	3·34	4,754	4·60	9,553	16·17	+ 4,799	+ 11·57
,, United States ..	9,572	10·93	14,215	14·27	10,903	15·05	— 3,312	+ 0·78
,, France ..	8,033	7·62	2,619	2·93	3,266	5·17	+ 647	+ 2·24
,, Victoria ..	2,730	2·30	2,063	2·05	2,997	4·81	+ 934	+ 2·76
,, New South Wales ..	..	..	1,627	1·37	3,076	4·67	+ 1,449	+ 3·30
,, Germany ..	7,655	7·22	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, other countries.	1,439	1·46	875	1·12	92	0·17	— 783	— 0·95
Total ..	32,538	32·87	26,153	26·34	29,887	46·04	+ 3,734	+ 19·70
Total, Hides and skins	34,395	33·39	26,762	26·72	30,564	46·54	+ 3,802	+ 19·82

Exports of *raw hides* from the Madras Presidency are comparatively unimportant, but there was an improvement of 11 per cent in quantity and 31 per cent in value. The whole quantity went to the United Kingdom.

Raw skins, consisting almost entirely of goat skins, expanded by 15 per cent in weight and 75 per cent in value, the average value having risen from As. 14–4 to Rs. 1–6–0 per lb. The marked increase in price is ascribed to the large demand for tanned skins at the London sales which reacted on raw skins locally. The share of the United Kingdom rose from 18 to 32 per cent, while that of the United States fell from 53 to 36 per cent.

Metallic ores.—Shipments of *manganese ore* to the United Kingdom, which as usual formed the chief item under this head, amounted to 9,450 tons valued at Rs. 1·05 lakhs against 2,000 tons valued at Rs. 0·18 lakh.

Oils.—There was again a considerable increase in the quantity of oil exported and the value rose by Rs. 24·14 lakhs to Rs. 77·82 lakhs.

Animal oils, consisting almost entirely of fish oils, have fallen away very considerably. In 1914–15 220,839 gallons were shipped, in 1915–16 29,080 gallons, but in the year under review only 10,500 gallons, valued at Rs. 6,000, were shipped. Under *essential oils lemongrass oil* from South Malabar improved from 30,976 gallons to 34,993 gallons valued at Rs. 4·81 lakhs. The value of shipments to France more than doubled while those to the United States and the United Kingdom both declined. Other essential oils, consisting mostly of *sandalwood oil*, amounted to 4,091 gallons valued at Rs. 7·73 lakhs, practically the whole of which went to the United Kingdom.

Under *vegetable oils*, exports of *coconut oil*, representing more than half the quantity of all oils, amounted almost to the same quantity as in the previous year, namely 2·02 million gallons, but the value rose from Rs. 38·57 lakhs to Rs. 42·53 lakhs, a rise of 10 per cent or from Rs. 1–14–0 to Rs. 2–2–0 per gallon. The value of shipments to the United Kingdom improved from Rs. 21·54 lakhs to Rs. 34·25 lakhs, the average exports before the war being valued at Rs. 6·15 lakhs. Shipments to the United States, which before the war were valued at Rs. 8·60 lakhs, almost doubled in 1915–16, but declined to Rs. 7·69 lakhs in the year under review as the export to that country has been prohibited since July 1916.

Exports of *castor oil* increased from 384,305 gallons valued at Rs. 5·02 lakhs to 1,016,905 gallons valued at Rs. 14·30 lakhs. The United Kingdom absorbed to the value of Rs. 13·07 lakhs against Rs. 3·92 lakhs. Shipments of *groundnut oil* also increased from 262,641 gallons to 443,812 gallons valued at Rs. 4·18 and 6·94 lakhs respectively. The increase was particularly marked in the case of consignments to the United Kingdom.

Seeds.—

Seeds.	Average for five years ending 1914–15.		1915–16.		1916–17.		Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	
	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.
Groundnuts—								
To France	2,688,232	223·13	2,897,602	205·35	1,191,087	97·40	—1,706,515	— 107·95
,, Italy	23,383	2·00	53,465	4·26	60,941	5·69	+ 7,476	+ 1·43
,, Straits Settlements.	4,426	0·31	1,704	0·08	54,337	3·81	+ 52,633	+ 3·73
,, United Kingdom.	11,145	0·61	15,890	1·26	18,719	1·64	+ 2,829	+ 0·38
,, Spain	3,289	0·27	47,451	2·98	6,450	0·47	— 41,001	— 2·51
,, Egypt	24,255	1·94	218	0·01	..	..	— 218	— 0·01
,, Austria-Hungary.	122,046	9·97	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Germany ..	55,080	4·75	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Belgium	121,467	10·42	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, other countries ..	4,001	0·28	8,398	0·42	6,398	0·35	— 2,000	— 0·07
Total ..	3,057,324	253·68	3,024,728	214·36	1,337,932	109·36	—1,686,796	— 105·00
Copra or coconut kernel—								
To France	59,090	10·88	173,438	30·10	419,471	77·99	+ 246,033	+ 47·89
,, United Kingdom.	52,660	9·72	134,013	26·01	61,943	11·99	— 72,070	— 14·02
,, Norway	..	..	..	..	13,999	2·80	+ 13,999	+ 2·80
,, United States ..	..	..	1,611	0·28	9,098	1·50	+ 7,487	+ 1·22
,, Holland	19,045	3·74	2,998	0·65	..	..	— 2,998	— 0·65
,, Germany	408,421	77·26	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Russia	46,342	8·93	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Austria-Hungary.	4,582	0·95	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, other countries ..	41,744	8·17	..	..	7	..	+ 7	..
Total ..	631,884	119·65	312,060	57·04	504,518	94·28	+ 192,458	+ 37·24
Essential oil-seeds ..	41,572	3·57	30,089	3·90	36,695	4·31	+ 6,606	+ 0·41
Castor—								
To United Kingdom.	144,604	10·58	32,132	2·05	49,068	3·60	+ 16,936	+ 1·55
,, Italy	16,930	1·22	7,435	0·44	930	0·06	— 6,505	— 0·38
,, United States ..	29,877	2·11	41,998	2·52	..	..	— 41,998	— 2·52
,, France	46,709	3·37	7,012	0·46	..	..	— 7,012	— 0·46
,, other countries ..	20,999	1·51	20,043	1·43	18	..	— 20,025	— 1·43
Total ..	259,119	18·79	108,620	6·90	50,016	3·66	— 58,604	— 3·24
Cotton—								
To Ceylon	35,111	1·42	35,320	1·40	35,826	1·38	+ 506	— 0·02
,, United Kingdom.	108,337	3·84	6,762	0·21	..	..	— 6,762	— 0·21
,, other countries ..	1,192	0·08	1,138	0·04	874	0·04	— 264	..
Total ..	144,640	5·34	43,220	1·65	36,700	1·42	— 6,520	— 0·23
Sesamum (til or jinjili)—								
To Ceylon	17,234	1·72	20,069	1·80	8,198	0·75	— 11,871	— 1·05
,, France	16,998	1·57	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Austria-Hungary.	14,596	1·46	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, other countries ..	4,290	0·41	255	0·03	97	0·01	— 158	— 0·02
Total ..	53,118	5·16	20,324	1·83	8,295	0·76	— 12,029	— 1·07
Other sorts	96,044	7·46	12,074	0·94	3,430	0·41	— 8,644	— 0·53
Total, Seeds ..	4,283,701	413·65	3,551,115	286·62	1,977,586	214·20	—1,573,529	— 72·42

Seeds form one of the principal exports from the Madras Presidency and before the war were exported in a larger quantity than any other produce. In 1916–17 the quantity declined by 44 per cent and the value by 25 per cent and represented only 8·34 per cent of the total foreign exports.

Groundnuts.—The trade in groundnuts represented 68 per cent of the total exports of seeds. Before the war the exports annually averaged 197,318 tons valued at Rs. 344·49 lakhs and France was the chief consumer. During 1914–15 there was a decline of 42 per cent in quantity and 45 per cent in value, but much of the unshipped balance went to Calcutta. In 1915–16 however, the trade with foreign countries revived and large consignments of nuts were sent to Marseilles. The shortage of tonnage to Mediterranean ports gave rise to considerable anxiety as to the disposal of the season's harvest, which was above the average, and prices dropped considerably. The position improved somewhat towards the close of the official year and an outlet was found by considerable exports to the Straits Settlements and coastwise to Bengal and by railing to Bombay for shipment thence and consequently the prices hardened to some extent. The figures for the whole year disclose a fall of 56 per cent in quantity and 49 per cent in value. The high prices prevailing in

1915-16 induced cultivators to sow more crops and the area under groundnuts in 1916-17 increased by 60 per cent. This is particularly marked in the Deccan where groundnut cultivation is extending to black cotton soils. The estimated yield is 30 per cent above that of the previous year and is given as 825,000 tons. At the beginning of April 1916 the price was Rs. 35 per candy of 500 lb., at the end of that month it was Rs. 38-8-0, but in the middle of July it fell to Rs. 34 and again rose to Rs. 37 at the end of September from which date there was, on the whole, a gradual decline, the closing price being Rs. 26-8-0. Fully 90 per cent of the exports of groundnuts was consigned to Marseilles, and it is interesting to note the phenomenal rise in freight rates to that port since the outbreak of the war. In July 1914 the rate quoted was 23*s*. 9*d*. per ton and in November 34*s*. 10*d*. In November 1915 125*s*. was quoted, but by November 1916 as much as 275*s*. per ton was paid. Since then rates have been nominal but as much as 450*s*. per ton has been paid. Exports to France (59,554 tons) declined by 59 per cent in quantity and 52 per cent in value. Shipments to Italy and the United Kingdom increased by 14 and 19 per cent. Exports coastwise remained about the same and amounted to 25,286 tons.

The following table compares the foreign export trade in groundnuts of the principal ports of this Presidency :—

Groundnuts.	1914-15.		1915-16.		1916-17.		Percentage.
	Tons.	Rupees Lakhs.	Tons.	Rupees Lakhs.	Tons.	Rupees Lakhs.	
From Madras	38,704	58·21	75,636	110·52	38,403	63·98	57·4
,, Cuddalore	35,874	60·00	42,923	56·20	13,562	20·90	20·3
,, Negapatam	16,647	29·24	19,805	30·27	7,444	12·18	11·1
,, Porto Novo	20,717	36·36	12,476	16·97	5,700	9·47	8·5
,, other ports	3,215	3·94	396	0·40	1,788	2 83	2·7
Total ..	115,157	187·75	151,236	214·36	66,897	109·36	100·0

The total quantity, both foreign and coasting, shipped at Madras was 56,819 tons compared with 97,535 tons in 1915-16, a decrease of 42 per cent.

Exports from Pondicherry amounted to 19,568 tons against 42,238 tons in 1915-16, a decrease of 54 per cent.

Copra or coconut kernels.—Inasmuch as Germany was formerly by far the largest importer of copra, with Belgium and Russia standing next, it was only to be expected that the complete cessation of exports to these countries would have a very serious effect on the trade in this product. This was early realised and manufacturers in England turned their attention to producing "vegetable butter." They also bought large quantities of coconut oil. France increased her imports of copra and, whereas before the war only 8 per cent went to that country, during the last two years her share has been 56 and 83 per cent and the United Kingdom's share 43 and 12 per cent respectively. During 1916-17 exports of copra improved by 61 per cent in quantity and 65 per cent in value, the average value having risen from Rs. 18-4-0 to Rs. 18-11-0 per cwt.

The following table shows the foreign export trade in the several products of the coconut palm :—

Coconut products.	1914-15.		1915-16.		1916-17.		Increase or decrease in 1916-17.	
	Quantity.	Rupees Lakhs.	Quantity.	Rupees Lakhs.	Quantity.	Rupees Lakhs.	Quantity.	Rupees Lakhs.
Copra .. .. Cwt.	634,722	122·97	312,060	57·04	504,518	94·28	+ 192,458	+ 37·24
Coir manufactures. ,,	470,701	56·27	536,157	63·19	557,843	63·54	+ 21,686	+ 0·35
Coconut oil .. Gall.	1,783,523	35·96	2,015,657	38·57	2,018,587	42·53	+ 2,930	+ 3·96
Coir rope .. Cwt.	9,173	1·03	13,575	1·48	12,543	1·16	— 1,032	— 0·32
Coir fibre .. ,,	4,608	0·50	5,230	0·52	4,406	0·45	— 824	— 0·07
Coconuts .. No.	66,982	0·03	163,150	0·07	32,050	0·01	— 131,100	— 0·06
Coconut poonac .. Cwt.	60,958	2·78	1,328	0·05	1	..	— 1,327	— 0·05
Total ..	..	219·54	..	160·92	..	201·97	..	+ 41·05

Essential oilseeds.—In 1915-16 exports of *coriander seed* to Ceylon declined but this trade has since revived and consequently shipments under this head increased by 23 per cent.

Castor seed.—For the past two seasons the castor seed crop has been very poor and exports have now dropped far below those of any previous year and were only about half those of 1915-16, though the quantity in that year was the smallest on record. The situation however is not as bad as it would appear as much of the seeds which were formerly crushed in Europe are now crushed in India and the very large quantities of castor oil exported during the last two years have more than compensated for the small quantity of castor seeds shipped.

Cotton seed.—There was a decrease of 15 per cent in the quantity of *cotton seed* exported and the increase to the United Kingdom noticed last year was not maintained.

Sesamum (*til or jinjili*).—The cultivation of *jinjili* declined by 16 per cent and was supplanted by groundnuts and indigo. The outturn was 12 per cent less than in the previous year and exports decreased 60 per cent in quantity and 58 per cent in value.

Niger seed.—Exports in 1914-15 amounted to 1,762 tons but declined in 1915-16 to 310 tons and in 1916-17 to 100 tons valued at Rs. 14,000.

Textile materials.—The total value under this head improved from Rs. 196·27 lakhs to Rs. 268·12 lakhs.

Cotton, raw.—

Cotton, raw.	Average for five years ending 1914-15.		1915-16.		1916-17.		Increase or decrease in 1916-17.	
	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.
To Japan	305,762	126·77	232,170	69·72	380,395	166·84	+ 148,225	+ 97·12
,, Italy	52,845	21·34	147,344	46·68	119,777	48·60	— 27,567	+ 1·92
,, United Kingdom ..	143,783	60·72	111,966	34·73	22,190	10·68	— 89,776	— 24·05
,, China	16,069	6·60	30,149	9·00	8,954	4·06	— 21,195	— 4·94
,, France	33,070	12·67	7,877	2·34	6,815	2·86	— 1,062	+ 0·52
,, Spain	11,951	4·94	16,568	5·40	4,555	2·32	— 12,013	— 3·08
,, Indo-China ..	1,870	·78	7,630	2·68	4,725	2·13	— 2,905	— 0·55
,, Ceylon	3,364	1·24	7,189	2·04	376	0·20	— 6,813	— 1·84
,, Switzerland ..	198	·07	5,513	1·51	1,766	0·86	— 3,747	— 0·65
,, Holland	11,986	4·66	..	..	2,589	0·78	+ 2,589	+ 0·78
,, Belgium	163,862	63·59	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Germany	62,919	25·37	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Austria-Hungary ..	49,237	19·16	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, Russia	1,845	·75	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, other countries ..	2,007	·87	..	..	1	..	+ 1	..
Total ..	860,768	349·53	566,406	174·10	552,143	239·33	— 14,263	+ 65·23

Exports of *raw cotton* showed a decline of 2 per cent in volume and a rise of 37 per cent in value. Shipments during the first nine months amounted to 548,080 cwt. valued at Rs. 237·04 lakhs against 504,693 cwt. valued at Rs. 153·64 lakhs, an increase of 8 per cent in quantity and 54 per cent in value. Owing to scarcity of tonnage shipments during January 1917 amounted only to 4,063 cwt. against 14,737 cwt. in January 1916 and there were no shipments during February and March. The area under cotton cultivation was estimated at 2,288,000 acres, an increase of 11 per cent. The estimated yield was 377,000 bales, an increase of 6 per cent.

The distribution and output of the different trade descriptions of *cotton* were as follows :—

Cotton, raw.	Estimated area under cotton.		Estimated yield.		Total shipments.	
	1915-16 Acres.	1916-17 Acres.	1915-16 Bales.	1916-17 Bales.	1915-16 Cwt.	1916-17 Cwt.
Tinnevellys	568,000	707,000	145,900	182,000	372,921	428,144
Salems, including Cambodias ..	279,600	335,000	47,700	85,000	} 115,922	83,789
Northerns and Westerns	919,800	937,000	114,700	60,000		
Cocanadas	251,200	289,000	46,400	48,000	77,563	40,190
Others	19,500	20,000	1,800	2,000	..	20
Total ..	2,038,100	2,288,000	356,500	377,000	566,406	552,143

There was a further rise in price. The spot price of middling American cotton at Liverpool, which was 5·7*d.* in April 1915 and 7·6*d.* in April 1916, rose to 12·1*d.* at the close of November but declined to 10·3*d.* at the beginning of February 1917 and again rose to 12·6*d.* at the close of the year. The local average *f.o.b.* price per candy of 500 lb. of cotton Westerns was Rs. 180 in April 1916 and Rs. 243 in March 1917. Shipments to Japan expanded by 64 per cent while those to the United Kingdom and Italy declined by 80 and 19 per cent respectively. The increase in the exports to Japan was due partly to low freights and partly to the expansion in the trade in cotton textiles, yarns, hosiery and other cotton goods in that country, while the decrease in the case of the United Kingdom and Italy is attributed to high freights and scarcity of tonnage. As in the case of groundnuts, large quantities of raw cotton were sent by rail to Bombay for shipment thence to foreign countries.

Hemp, raw.—Exports declined slightly from 2,350 tons to 2,303 tons while the value rose from Rs. 7·85 lakhs to Rs. 9·53 lakhs. Eighty-five per cent of the exports went to the United Kingdom and 14 per cent to Italy.

Jute, raw.—No jute, properly so called, is exported from this Presidency but the *Hibiscus* fibre usually grown in the coast districts north of Madras is technically known as jute, e.g., Bimlipatam, Gopalpore and Kottapatam jute, and is classified as such. Exports of this fibre improved from 5,867 tons to 6,090 tons in quantity and from Rs. 12·60 lakhs to Rs. 16·84 lakhs in value. Exports were almost entirely restricted to the United Kingdom.

Wood and timber.—With an increase of Rs. 1·25 lakhs the total value stood at Rs. 15·44 lakhs. Exports of *teak* and other timber amounted to Rs. 1·84 lakhs against Rs. 1·92 lakhs and of *sandalwood* to Rs. 13·59 lakhs against Rs. 12·27 lakhs. The United Kingdom and the United States received sandalwood to the value of Rs. 7·66 and 5·48 lakhs respectively, against Rs. 3·52 and 8·28 lakhs in the previous year. The average value of exports to Germany before the war was Rs. 5·85 lakhs.

Miscellaneous—Rubber.—

Year.	Average price per lb.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.
	RS. A.		
1909–10	4 10	376	1·95
1910–11	5 2	1,414	8·13
1911–12	4 3	4,866	22·98
1912–13	4 2	8,888	40·78
1913–14	3 7	15,959	61·31
1914–15	2 12	23,886	72·98
1915–16	2 7	35,593	95·96
1916–17	2 3	46,745	114·18

Exports of *raw rubber* have shown large increases every year and in 1916–17 further inproved by 31 per cent in quantity and 19 per cent in value. This was brought about by larger areas of rubber trees coming into bearing. Shipments to the United Kingdom, Ceylon and the United States amounted to Rs. 77·89, 29·70 and 6·57 lakhs respectively, against Rs. 63·65, 28·90 and 3·39 lakhs in 1915–16.

Fibre for brushes and brooms, consisting chiefly of palmyra fibre shipped from Cocanada, Tuticorin and Calicut, amounted to Rs. 19·05 lakhs against Rs. 17·28 lakhs in 1915–16, the chief consumer being the United Kingdom.

Exports of *manures* amounted to Rs. 14·91 lakhs against Rs. 8·05 lakhs. Shipments of *bones* amounted to Rs. 3·44 lakhs, *fish manure and guano* to Rs. 8·82 lakhs and *other manures* to Rs. 2·65 lakhs against Rs. 3·08, 2·16 and 2·80 lakhs respectively, in 1915–16. The increase under fish manures was due to larger catches of sardines for manure.

The quantity of *mica* exported improved from 257 to 279 tons, or by 9 per cent, and the value from Rs. 3·75 lakhs to Rs. 6·05 lakhs, or by 61 per cent. Shipments were confined to the United Kingdom.

III.—ARTICLES WHOLLY OR MAINLY MANUFACTURED.

The total value under this head increased from Rs. 862·03 lakhs to Rs. 963 lakhs.

Chemicals, drugs and medicines.—Exports of *cinchona bark* amounted to 688,143 lb. valued at Rs. 1·73 lakhs against 607,807 lb. valued at Rs. 1·30

lakhs in 1915–16. Shipments were confined to the United Kingdom. Consignments of *nux vomica* declined from 2,225 tons valued at Rs. 3·28 lakhs to 2,172 tons valued at Rs. 3·53 lakhs and were consigned to the United Kingdom and the United States. Shipments of *senna* have again shown a considerable increase, and rose from 1,599 tons to 4,753 tons and from Rs. 7·49 lakhs to Rs. 29·03 lakhs. Rupees 20·14 lakhs' worth was sent to the United Kingdom compared with Rs. 5·80 lakhs' worth in 1915–16 and the United States and France increased their supplies from Rs. 0·91 and 0·55 lakhs to Rs. 4·41 and 3·03 lakhs respectively. Large crops of *senna* are grown in the Tinnevelly and Ramnad districts, and early in the year high prices were offered in England even for the lower grades of leaves and pods. The market at home however became heavily overstocked with senna of poor quality and this will probably affect the exports for the year 1917–18.

Dyes and colours.—The remarkable expansion referred to in last year's report under the head of *dyeing and tanning substances* was not maintained and exports declined from Rs. 116·69 lakhs to Rs. 73·84 lakhs.

Exports of *indigo* receded from 1,308 tons to 614 tons, or by 53 per cent, and from Rs. 108·77 lakhs to Rs. 67·55 lakhs, or by 38 per cent. The average value rose from Rs. 416 to Rs. 550 per cwt. Shipments to the United Kingdom, representing 60 per cent of the total exports, declined from Rs. 89·93 lakhs to Rs. 41·86 lakhs, while those to Egypt, the United States and Italy improved from Rs. 9·53, 3·95 and 1·87 lakhs to Rs. 15·26, 6·02 and 2·62 lakhs respectively. The market opened with brisk demands from Egypt and with enquiries from the United States, and competitors were forced to pay higher prices every day. Owing to large stocks in London, offers from that centre were not encouraging and the high price of indigo, coupled with high freight rates, restricted trading. Speculative shipments to Egypt however continued. The area under indigo in 1916–17 is reported to have been 449,900 acres, or double the actual area sown in 1915–16. The yield was estimated at 2,954 tons, or about 2½ times last year's estimate. Heavy rains in the Guntur district and the Deccan caused serious damage to the crop so that the yield per acre has been poor and the quality is reported to be indifferent. In the North Arcot, Salem and Chittoor districts however, the harvest has been favourable. Exports coastwise declined from 106 tons to 68 tons.

Exports of *myrobalans*, the major portion of which went to the United Kingdom, declined from Rs 2·32 lakhs to Rs. 0·48 lakh. Exports of *turmeric* rose from Rs. 3·83 lakhs to Rs. 4·73 lakhs. This was due to the United States taking fifty times as much as in the previous year. Shipments to Ceylon increased whilst those to the Straits Settlements decreased.

Hides and skins, tanned or dressed, and leather.—The total exports of *tanned hides and skins* on private account decreased by 16 per cent in quantity but increased by 30 per cent in value. Exports on private and Government account combined showed an increase of 24 per cent in weight and 70 per cent in value.

Hides and skins.	Average for five years ending 1914-15.		1915-16.		1916-17.		Increase or decrease in 1916-17.	
	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.
Hides, tanned or dressed—								
To United Kingdom. Private	155,242	135·45	222,336	236·48	142,923	185·04	— 79,413	— 51·44
To United Kingdom. Government.	..	..	..	..	131,746	178·63	+ 131,746	+ 178·63
,, other countries	669	0·56	82	0·10	31	0·03	— 51	— 0·07
Total, Hides .. Private	155,911	136·01	222,418	236·58	142,954	185·07	— 79,464	— 51·51
Total, Hides .. Government.	..	..	..	..	131,746	178·63	+ 131,746	+ 178·63
Skins, tanned or dressed—								
To United Kingdom	84,039	171·57	62,560	126·01	81,382	261·67	+ 18,822	+ 135·66
,, United States	14,532	28·24	35,440	72·04	43,444	113·41	+ 8,004	+ 41·37
,, Japan	8,129	13·96	4,824	8·91	5,585	15·34	+ 761	+ 6·43
,, Straits Settlements	2,408	4·29	1,747	3·69	1,588	4·36	— 159	+ 0·67
,, other countries..	2,805	6·40	495	0·86	957	2·69	+ 462	+ 1·83
Total, Skins ..	111,913	224·46	105,066	211·51	132,956	397·47	+ 27,890	+ 185·96
Total, Hides and Skins. Private.	267,824	360·47	327,484	448·09	275,910	582·54	— 51,574	+ 134·45
Total, Hides and Skins. Government.	..	..	..	..	131,746	178·63	+131,746	+ 178·63

The above table includes 131,746 cwt. of tanned cow hides valued at Rs. 178·63 lakhs purchased on Government account since September 1916 and shipped by private exporters. In the general returns these amounts have been classified under Government stores; for purposes of comparison however, they are taken into consideration here. The total shipments of *tanned hides* showed an expansion of 23 per cent in quantity and 54 per cent in value. If we exclude the cow hides referred to above then exports of tanned hides declined by 36 per cent in weight and 21 per cent in value.

The increased demand for war materials improved the trade under *cow hides* by 22 per cent in quantity and 53 per cent in value. High prices at home induced larger shipments of tanned *buffalo hides* and these "buffs" rose by 29 per cent in quantity and 61 per cent in value.

Exports of all tanned hides were almost entirely confined to the United Kingdom.

Exports of *tanned skins* improved by 27 per cent in weight and 88 per cent in value. There was an extraordinary demand from Europe and America during the year under review and prices rose steadily until December 1916. At the end of the year the export of tanned skins was prohibited to the United States of America, and from January 1917 a fall has taken place. The high prices obtainable for goat and sheep skins however, prompted tanners to tan skins on a far larger scale, and new tanneries were opened. Under *goat skins* the United Kingdom increased her imports by 25 per cent and the United States by 13 per cent.

Under *sheep skins* the United Kingdom received skins valued at Rs. 108·81 lakhs, the United States Rs. 36·83 lakhs, Japan Rs. 15·03 lakhs, and the Straits Settlements Rs. 4·36 lakhs against Rs. 48·73, 19·66, 8·86 and 3·69 lakhs respectively, in the previous year.

Calf skins and other skins improved from 7,189 cwt. to 12,470 cwt owing to increased demand and these were, as usual, almost entirely confined to the United Kingdom.

The following table shows in detail the quantity and average price of the different kinds of hides and skins exported :—

Tanned hides and skins.		1915-16.			1916-17.		
		Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rate per lb.	Cwt.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rate per lb.
				RS. A. P.			RS. A. P.
Hides, tanned or dressed—							
Cow hides	Private	198,900	215·59	0 15 6	112,527	151·06	1 3 2
	Government.	..	..	..	131,746	178·63	1 3 6
Buffalo hides		23,504	20·98	0 12 9	30,369	33·94	1 0 0
Other hides		14	0·01	0 10 5	58	0·07	1 2 4
Total, Hides ..	Private	222,418	236·58	0 15 3	142,954	185·07	1 2 6
	Government.	..	..	..	131,746	178·63	1 3 6
Skins, tanned or dressed—							
Goat skins		57,045	122·00	1 14 7	68,597	212·35	2 12 3
Sheep skins		40,832	81·47	1 12 4	51,889	165·96	2 13 8
Other skins		7,189	8·04	1 0 0	12,470	19·16	1 5 11
Total, Skins ..		105,066	211·51	1 12 9	132,956	397·47	2 10 8
Total, Hides and Skins	Private	327,484	448·09	1 4 0	275,910	582·54	1 14 2
	Government.	..	..	..	131,746	178·63	1 3 6

Yarns and textile fabrics.—Exports of *cotton twist and yarn* declined in quantity from 5·96 million lb. to 1·81 million lb. or by 70 per cent in quantity, and from Rs. 25·86 lakhs to Rs. 11·69 lakhs, or by 55 per cent in value. The trade with Shanghai, which was considerable in 1915–16, was not maintained. Exports of *cotton piecegoods* slightly declined and amounted to 28·36 million yards valued at Rs. 117·36 lakhs, a fall of 1 per cent in quantity and a rise of 6 per cent in value. *Grey goods* chiefly to Ceylon, the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States declined from Rs. 2·67 lakhs to Rs. 1·73 lakhs. Under *coloured goods* the value of lungis and saris rose from Rs. 103·50 lakhs to Rs. 108·55 lakhs, and other sorts from Rs. 4·05 lakhs to Rs. 6·05 lakhs. The Straits Settlements absorbed coloured goods to the value of Rs. 81·40 lakhs, Ceylon Rs. 24·72 lakhs, Sumatra Rs. 4·02 lakhs, and the Federated

Malay States Rs. 2·85 lakhs against Rs. 72·54, 23·25, 5·71 and 3·97 lakhs respectively, in the previous year. The export trade in Madras *handkerchiefs* made by handlooms, declined from Rs. 13·73 lakhs to Rs. 4·19 lakhs, partly owing to the restriction placed on the import of these goods into the United Kingdom. Shipments to other countries were unimportant.

Exports of *woollen goods* amounted to the same value as in the previous year, viz., Rs. 3·59 lakhs. Carpets and rugs amounted to Rs. 2·02 lakhs and other sorts to Rs. 1·57 lakhs against Rs. 2·09 and 1·46 lakhs respectively, in the previous year.

Miscellaneous.—Exports of *coir manufactures*, consisting chiefly of coir yarn and matting, amounted to Rs. 63·54 lakhs against Rs. 63·19 lakhs in 1915–16. Exports to the United Kingdom, France and Ceylon increased considerably, while those to the United States, Portugal and Italy declined.

Oil-cakes to the value of Rs. 48·92 lakhs were exported against Rs. 51·51 lakhs in 1915–16. Sesamum cake amounted to Rs. 26·19 lakhs, groundnut cake to Rs. 17·20 lakhs and castor cake to Rs. 5·42 lakhs. The exports of coconut cake practically ceased.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS AND UNCLASSIFIED.

The total value of exports under this head rose from Rs. 57·64 lakhs to Rs. 67·70 lakhs.

Animals. living.—

Animals.	1915–16.		1916–17.		Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	
	Number.	Rupees Lakhs.	Number.	Rupees Lakhs.	Number.	Rupees Lakhs.
Sheep and goats ..	95,119	9·57	112,609	11·39	+ 17,490	+ 1·82
Cattle, excluding sheep and goats	12,128	5·33	13,287	7·58	+ 1,159	+ 2·25
Poultry	162,409	0·91	156,416	0·90	− 5,993	− 0·01
Horses	12	0·04	22	0·10	+ 10	+ 0·06
Other kinds	770	0·01	219	0·01	− 551	..
Total ..	270,438	15·86	282,553	19·98	+ 12,115	+ 4·12

The value of living animals shipped from this Presidency to foreign countries amounted to Rs. 19·98 lakhs compared with Rs. 15·86 lakhs in the previous year, nearly two-thirds going to Ceylon and one-third to the Straits Settlements.

Articles exported by post improved from Rs. 40·39 lakhs to Rs. 46·86 lakhs.

RE-EXPORTS.

The total value of *re-exports* amounted to Rs. 21·69 lakhs against Rs. 21·59 lakhs in the previous year and exceeded the figure for 1913–14 by Rs. 1·08 lakhs. Cotton piece-goods sent to the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States and Ceylon accounted for Rs. 8·43 lakhs, or 39 per cent, articles by post for Rs. 6·92 lakhs, or 32 per cent, and hardware for Rs. 1·42 lakhs, or 7 per cent.

TREASURE.

Gold.—There were no imports of gold during the year under review, whereas the average *imports* of gold prior to the war amounted to Rs. 38·3 lakhs and declined to Rs. 437 in 1915–16.

Exports of gold declined from Rs. 2·33 lakhs to Rs. 0·08 lakh, of which sovereigns to the value of Rs. 4,950, and other gold coins to the value of Rs. 2,900, were sent to Ceylon.

Silver.—*Imports* of silver declined from Rs. 2·87 lakhs to Rs. 2 lakhs. The quantity of bar silver amounted to 66,175 ounces, valued at Rs. 1·55 lakhs, against 144,760 ounces, valued at Rs. 2·57 lakhs. Imports from the United Kingdom declined from Rs. 2·53 lakhs to Rs. 0·01 lakh, while those from the Straits Settlements rose from Rs. 48 to Rs. 1·53 lakhs. Imports of Government of India *rupees* amounted to Rs. 43,300 against Rs. 28,000 in the previous year.

Exports of silver, consisting mostly of rupees shipped to Ceylon (Rs. 80 lakhs), the Straits Settlements (Rs. 8·9 lakhs) and the Federated Malay States (Rs. 1 lakh), were valued at Rs. 89·9 lakhs compared with Rs. 32·23 lakhs in 1915–16.

GOVERNMENT TRANSACTIONS.

The total value of *Government stores* imported and exported amounted to Rs. 97·12 lakhs and Rs. 179·23 lakhs respectively, compared with Rs. 63·13 lakhs and Rs. 1·55 lakhs in the previous year. The increase of Rs. 33·98 lakhs under *imports* was brought about by larger receipts of apparel (+ Rs. 17·77 lakhs), cotton goods (+ Rs. 16·93 lakhs), hardware (+ Rs. 3·04 lakhs), and drugs and medicines (+ Rs. 2·15 lakhs), but imports of chemicals declined by Rs. 4·58 lakhs. Imports were mostly from the United Kingdom. The increase under *exports* was due to the shipment of Rs. 178·63 lakhs' worth of tanned cow hides to the United Kingdom on Government account.

SHIPPING—FOREIGN TRADE.

	Average for five years ending 1914–15.		1915-16.		1916–17.		Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Entered—								
With cargoes .. British	712	1,352,452	868	925,400	861	884,045	— 7	— 41,355
British Indian	115	13,903	107	17,752	121	14,312	+ 14	— 3,440
Foreign ..	111	336,804	36	103,491	25	52,744	— 11	— 50,747
Native Craft ..	244	15,722	188	11,285	216	13,424	+ 28	+ 2,139
Total ..	1,182	1,718,881	1,199	1,057,928	1,223	964,525	+ 24	— 93,403
In ballast .. British	121	118,099	288	139,703	247	105,454	— 41	— 34,249
British Indian	106	11,161	105	11,407	192	18,137	+ 87	+ 6,730
Foreign ..	5	11,683	4	9,908	1	2,167	— 3	— 7,741
Native Craft ..	288	15,416	291	16,948	397	24,996	+ 106	+ 8,048
Total ..	520	156,359	688	177,966	837	150,754	+ 149	— 27,212
Total, Entered ..	1,702	1,875,240	1,887	1,235,894	2,060	1,115,279	+ 173	— 120,615
Cleared—								
With cargoes. British	750	1,449,209	1,182	1,163,444	1,104	996,015	— 78	— 167,429
British Indian ..	200	22,585	197	23,486	283	32,811	+ 86	+ 9,325
Foreign ..	94	273,552	44	128,384	32	80,850	— 12	— 47,534
Native Craft ..	501	33,263	508	34,143	657	49,059	+ 149	+ 14,916
Total ..	1,545	1,778,609	1,931	1,349,457	2,076	1,158,735	+ 145	— 190,722
In ballast .. British ..	97	121,366	11	32,256	4	8,438	— 7	— 23,818
British Indian .	18	2,216	15	1,671	2	368	— 13	— 1,303
Foreign ..	2	2,433	3	5,853	..	..	— 3	— 5,853
Native Craft ..	75	2,386	33	1,604	19	952	— 14	— 652
Total ..	192	128,401	62	41,384	25	9,758	— 37	— 31,626
Total, Cleared ..	1,737	1,907,010	1,993	1,390,841	2,101	1,168,493	+ 108	— 222,348
Grand Total ..	3,439	3,782,250	3,880	2,626,735	4,161	2,283,772	+ 281	— 342,963

The particulars given in the above table are for the whole Presidency and relate to *shipping* entering from, and clearing to, foreign ports. Vessels calling at Madras *en route* to Calcutta are treated as foreign entries and coasting clearances and *vice versa.*

Previous to the war the total tonnage averaged 3·96 million tons per annum. In 1914–15 there was a decrease of a million tons and during the past two years a further drop to 2·28 million tons. On the other hand the actual number of vessels has steadily increased and amounted to 4,161 against a pre-war average of 3,343. The average tonnage per vessel consequently declined and was 549 tons against 677 in the previous year and less than half the average for the five years ending 1913–14. This result was due to the larger number of Native craft now employed. Excluding the ferry steamers plying daily between Dhanushkodi and Talaimannar, the average tonnage of British vessels entering and clearing was 1,835 and that of foreign vessels 2,341 tons. Of the 26 vessels which entered under foreign colours five were Norwegian, five Dutch, four Russian, four Swedish, two French, two Greek, two Italian, one American and one Arabian. The tonnage of British vessels amounted to 87 per cent of the whole against 86 per cent in 1915-16. British Indian vessels and native craft claimed 7 per cent against 5 per cent in the previous year. The number of Native craft engaged in foreign trade rose from 1,020 to 1,289 and their tonnage from 63,980 to 88,431.

DISTRIBUTION OF FOREIGN TRADE BY COUNTRIES.

Countries.	Imports.			Exports.			Total of imports and exports.			Percentage which the total of one country bears to the whole.	
	Average for five years ending 1914–15.	1915–16	1916–17.	Average for five years ending 1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.	1915–16	1916–17	Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	1915–16.	1916–17
	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.		
British Empire—											
United Kingdom ..	853·76	762·70	856·89	673·80	946·57	1,004·92	1,709·27	1,861·81	+ 152·54	47·33	48·02
Ceylon	58·16	69·15	74·78	424·51	644·59	603·53	713·74	678·31	− 35·43	19·76	17·50
Straits Settlements ..	52·55	71·63	80·76	105·25	127·39	142·67	199·02	223·43	+ 24·41	5·51	5·76
Canada	..	..	0·40	33 15	2·55	28·61	2·55	29 01	+ 26·46	0·07	0·75
Mauritius	4·68	10 87	0·94	17·57	28·00	27·10	38·87	28·04	− 10·83	1·08	0·73
Victoria	6·36	12·70	11·22	7·40	8·87	9·39	21·57	20·61	− 0·96	0·60	0·53
Federated Malay States	0·15	0·60	1·09	10·92	13·03	15·77	13·63	16·86	+ 3·23	0·38	0·43
Egypt	0·25	0·68	0·10	5·00	9·77	15·99	10·45	16·09	+ 5·64	0·29	0·42
New South Wales ..	1·21	0·27	0·22	4·11	5·66	9·06	5·93	9·28	+ 3·35	0·16	0·24
Bahrein Islands ..	..	..	0·03	3·72	3·45	2·71	3·45	[illegible]·74	+ 0·29	0·09	0·10
Natal	0·44	2·06	0·12	3·14	5·15	2·17	7·21	2·29	− 4·92	0·20	0·06
Aden and Dependencies.	0·06	0·03	0·37	1·49	0·65	0·44	0·68	0·81	+ 0·13	0·02	0·02
Hongkong	1·52	0·19	0·34	1·64	0·02	0·13	0·21	0·47	+ 0·26	0·01	0·01
Western Australia ..	5·96	3·09	0·02	0·47	0·41	0·40	3·50	0·42	− 3·08	0·10	0·01
Other British Possessions.	0·48	0·32	0·36	4·68	4·18	4·60	4·50	4·96	+ 0·46	0·12	0·13
Total, British Empire ..	985·58	934·29	1,027·64	1,296·85	1,800·29	1,868·49	2,734·58	2,896·13	+ 161·55	75·72	74·71
Foreign countries—											
Europe—											
France	39·16	42·35	40·61	345·65	279·14	235·87	321·49	276·48	− 45·01	8·90	7·13
Italy	2·25	1·70	2 41	38·68	61·93	65·04	63·63	67·45	+ 3·82	1·76	1·75
Sweden	10·75	13·89	7·60	4·36	..	..	13·89	7·60	− 6·29	0·38	0·20
Norway	2·18	4·55	4·31	0·48	0·82	3·09	5·37	7·40	+ 2·03	0·15	0·19
Switzerland ..	1·45	1·87	2·35	0·19	3·76	2·93	5·63	5·28	− 0·35	0·16	0·13
Holland	4·39	4·45	3·09	20·26	7·44	0·91	11·89	4·00	− 7·89	0·33	0·10
Spain	0·20	0·23	0·30	5·47	8·80	2 80	9·03	3·10	− 5·93	0·25	0·08
Germany	62·45	3·64	0·46	197·53	..	..	3·64	0·46	− 3·18	0·10	0·01
Belgium	40·98	1·73	0·33	101·62	..	..	1·73	0·33	− 1·40	0·05	0·01
Austria-Hungary ..	22·91	0·02	0·20	41·11	..	..	0·02	0·20	+ 0·18	..	0·01
Russia	2·43	0·01	..	10·14	1·52	0·15	1·53	0·15	− 1·38	0·04	..
Portugal	0·08	0·05	0·04	3·07	2·03	..	2·08	0·04	− 2·04	0·06	..
Other countries ..	0·22	0·50	0·13	0·71	0·41	..	0·91	0·13	− 0·78	0·03	..
Total, Europe ..	189·45	74·99	61·83	769·27	365·85	310·79	440·84	372·62	− 68·22	12·21	9·61
Asia—											
Japan	10·87	23·70	26·87	141·43	82·52	187·01	106·22	213·88	+ 107·66	2·95	5·52
Java	39·92	42·18	33·78	1·76	1·55	1·06	43·73	34·84	− 8·89	1·21	0·90
China (excluding Hongkong and Macao).	4·05	4·27	5·36	31·45	34·58	13·90	38·85	19·26	− 19·59	1·08	0·50
Philippines	0·01	..	15·77	0·34	..	..	..	15·77	+ 15·77	..	0·41
Arabia (excluding Aden).	0·45	0·04	..	4·91	7·02	6·10	7·06	6·10	− 0·96	0·19	0·16
Turkey (Asiatic) ..	1·11	2·00	4·24	3·95	0·27	1·27	2·27	5·51	+ 3·24	0·06	0·14
Sumatra	2·44	..	..	1·07	5·77	4·24	5·77	4·24	− 1·53	0·16	0·11
Siam	1·15	0·75	2·32	..	0·09	0·17	0·84	2·49	+ 1·65	..	0·06
Indo-China	..	..	..	1·38	3·02	2·41	3·02	2·41	− 0·61	0·08	0·06
Borneo (Dutch) ..	4·07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other countries ..	0·28	0·61	..	2·00	4·99	1·27	5·60	1·27	− 4·33	0·18	0·03
Total, Asia ..	64·35	73·55	88·34	188·29	139·81	217·43	213·36	305·77	+ 92·41	5·91	7·89
Africa—											
Réunion	0 05	0·08	0·11	4·17	..	3·25	0·08	3·36	+ 3·28	..	0·09
Other countries ..	0·11	..	0·02	0·55	0·53	0·63	0·53	0·65	+ 0·12	0·01	0·01
Total, Africa ..	0·16	0·08	0·13	4·72	0·53	3·88	0·61	4·01	+ 3·40	0·01	0·10
America—											
United States ..	45·35	70·29	107·65	73·75	151·77	190·61	222·06	298·26	+ 76·20	6·15	7·69
Other countries ..	..	..	..	0·02	0·02	0·07	0 02	0·07	+ 0·05	..	..
Total, America ..	45·35	70·29	107·65	73·77	151·79	190 68	222·08	298·33	+ 76·25	6·15	7·69
Total, Foreign countries.	299·31	218·91	257·95	1,036·05	657·98	722·78	876·89	980·73	+ 103·84	24·28	25·29
Grand Total ..	1,284·89	1,153·20	1,285·59	2,332·90	2,458·27	2,591·27	3,611·47	3,876·86	+ 265·39	100·00	100·00

Imports and exports of treasure and Government stores are excluded from the above table.

Of the aggregate trade in the Madras Presidency the *British Empire's* share, which before the war amounted to 63 per cent, improved to 75 per cent both in 1915–16 and 1916–17. The value of *imports* advanced by Rs. 93·35 lakhs, or by 10 per cent, and that of *exports* by Rs. 68·2 lakhs, or by 4 per cent, giving a total increase of trade of Rs. 161·55 lakhs, or 6 per cent. The trade with other countries also improved by Rs. 103·84 lakhs, or by 12 per cent, made up of Rs. 39·04 lakhs under *imports* and Rs. 64·8 lakhs under *exports*.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

United Kingdom.—The trade with the United Kingdom represented 48 per cent of the total trade compared with 47·33 per cent in 1915–16 and expanded by Rs. 152·54, lakhs, or 9 per cent. If we include the tanned cow hides shipped under Government control the total trade would show an expansion of Rs. 331·17 lakhs, or 19 per cent. Under foreign *imports* 67 per cent came from the United Kingdom against 66 per cent in 1915–16 and the value increased by Rs. 94·19 lakhs, or 12 per cent. There were larger receipts of cotton piece-goods (+ Rs. 45·77 lakhs), cotton twist and yarn (+ Rs. 16·28 lakhs), metals (+ Rs. 11·93 lakhs), paper and pasteboard (+ Rs. 11·55 lakhs), articles by post (+ Rs. 6·67 lakhs), woollen goods (+ Rs. 5·45 lakhs), chemicals (+ Rs. 4·98 lakhs), dyeing and tanning substances (+ Rs. 4·94 lakhs), soap (+ Rs. 4·71 lakhs), provisions (+ Rs. 3·80 lakhs), machinery (+ Rs. 3·21 lakhs), arms and ammunition (+ Rs. 2·89 lakhs), tea chests (+ Rs. 2·22 lakhs), tobacco (+ Rs. 2·21 lakhs), glass and glassware (+ Rs. 2·21 lakhs), stationery (+ Rs. 2·12 lakhs) and drugs and medicines (+ Rs. 1·57 lakhs). These increases were partly counterbalanced by smaller receipts of railway plant and rolling-stock (— Rs. 38·74 lakhs), cement (— Rs. 6·28 lakhs), patent fuel (— Rs. 1·62 lakhs) and cycles (— Rs. 1·06 lakhs). *Exports* to the United Kingdom represented 39 per cent of the total exports compared with 38 per cent in 1915–16 and improved by Rs. 58·35 lakhs, or 6 per cent. There were increased shipments of tanned skins (+ Rs. 135·66 lakhs), oils (+ Rs. 33·28 lakhs), senna leaves (+ Rs. 14·34 lakhs), raw rubber (+ Rs. 14·24 lakhs), raw goat skins (+ Rs. 11·58 lakhs), coir manufactures (+ Rs. 9·85 lakhs), raw jute (+ Rs. 4·28 lakhs), sandal-wood (+ Rs. 4·16 lakhs), unwrought leather (+ Rs. 2·99 lakhs), mica (+ Rs. 2·30 lakhs) and leaf tobacco (+ Rs. 1·12 lakhs). Against these, decreases were recorded under tanned hides—excluding cow hides shipped on Government account—(— Rs. 51·44 lakhs), indigo (— Rs. 48·07 lakhs), raw cotton (— Rs. 24·05 lakhs), tea (— Rs. 21·08 lakhs), seeds (— Rs. 12·72 lakhs), coffee (— Rs. 7·63 lakhs), raw hemp (— Rs. 3·19 lakhs), spices (— Rs. 2·01 lakhs), myrobalans (— Rs. 1·82 lakhs) and rice (— Rs. 1·4 lakhs).

Ceylon.—The *import* trade from *Ceylon* advanced by Rs. 5·63 lakhs due to increased arrivals of betelnuts, jute gunny bags and raw skins, while the *export* trade declined by Rs. 41·06 lakhs in consequence of smaller shipments of rice and paddy (— Rs. 71·92 lakhs), fresh vegetables (— Rs. 5·21 lakhs), tea (— Rs 3·21 lakhs), raw cotton (— Rs. 1·83 lakhs), and oil-cakes (— Rs. 1·50 lakhs), partly set off by larger shipments of sugar (+ Rs. 11·51 lakhs), fish (+ Rs. 7·37 lakhs), manures (+ Rs. 6·75 lakhs), postal articles (+ Rs. 4·63 lakhs), chillies (+ Rs. 2·95 lakhs), coloured piece-goods (+ Rs. 1·47 lakhs) and coir manufactures (+ Rs. 1·02 lakhs).

Straits Settlements.—*Imports* from the *Straits Settlements* improved by Rs. 9·13 lakhs, increases being recorded under sugar (+ Rs. 9·62 lakhs), betelnuts (+ Rs. 4·09 lakhs), farinaceous foods (+ Rs. 1·60 lakhs), pepper (+ Rs. 1·55 lakhs) and tin (+ Rs. 1 lakh), but there was a deficit of Rs. 9·16 lakhs under kerosene oil. *Exports* further advanced by Rs. 15·28 lakhs; larger shipments of coloured piece-goods (+ Rs. 8·86 lakhs), groundnuts (+ Rs. 3·73 lakhs), and living animals (+ Rs. 2·98 lakhs) mainly contributed to this improvement.

Other British Possessions.—Smaller imports of sugar reduced the trade with *Mauritius* by Rs. 10·83 lakhs. The *Federated Malay States'* share improved by Rs. 3·23 lakhs as a result of larger shipments of living animals, rice and silk goods. *Canada* received more tea and *Egypt* more indigo and for these reasons our trade with these countries improved by Rs. 26·46 lakhs and Rs. 5·64 lakhs respectively. Larger shipments of raw goat skins increased the trade with *New South Wales*. The decline in trade with *Victoria* was due to smaller imports of horses from, and smaller shipments of coffee to, that colony.

THE CONTINENT OF EUROPE.

Prior to the outbreak of the war the trade of the Madras Presidency with the *Continent* amounted to 28 per cent of the total foreign trade ; in 1914–15 it dropped to 20 per cent, in 1915–16 to about 12 per cent and in 1916–17 to 10 per cent. Imports declined by Rs. 13·16 lakhs, or 17 per cent, and exports by Rs. 55·06 lakhs, or 15 per cent, making a total deficit of Rs. 68·22 lakhs, or 16 per cent.

France.—Trade with *France*, which amounted to 7 per cent of the total foreign trade, fell away by Rs. 45 lakhs, or 14 per cent. *Imports* declined by Rs. 1·74 lakhs in consequence of smaller receipts of gold and silver thread and haberdashery, and *exports* by Rs. 43·27 lakhs as a result of smaller shipments of groundnuts (— Rs. 107·95 lakhs) and coffee (— Rs. 6·17 lakhs), partly counterbalanced by larger exports of copra (+ Rs. 47·89 lakhs), pepper (+ Rs. 11·70 lakhs), coir manufactures (+ Rs 2·76 lakhs), senna leaves (+ Rs. 2·48 lakhs), raw skins (+ Rs. 2·24 lakhs), oils (+ Rs. 1·65 lakhs) and tanned skins (+ Rs. 1·46 lakhs).

The trade with *Italy* improved by Rs. 3·82 lakhs as there were larger shipments of pepper, raw cotton and groundnuts but shipments of raw hemp declined. Smaller arrivals of matches and iron and steel reduced the trade with *Sweden* by Rs. 6·29 lakhs. There have been no exports to that country during the past two years. The expansion of Rs. 2·03 lakhs in the trade with *Norway* was due to larger shipments of copra to that country. *Holland* received less coir manufactures and *Spain* less raw cotton and groundnuts than in the previous year, and the trade with these two countries was reduced by Rs. 7·89 lakhs and Rs. 5·93 lakhs respectively. There was very little variation in the trade with *Switzerland* which amounted to Rs. 5·28 lakhs ; larger imports of watches having been counterbalanced by smaller shipments of raw cotton. There were no imports from *Russia* and exports to that country declined from Rs. 1·52 lakhs to Rs. 0·15 lakh.

The small quantity of imports from enemy countries represents goods landed from prize vessels.

ASIA.

The trade with Asiatic ports, other than British ports, improved by Rs. 92·41 lakhs, or 43 per cent, and represented 8 per cent of the aggregate trade. The trade with *Japan* expanded by Rs. 107·66 lakhs, or 101 per cent. Larger arrivals of articles by post, stationery, paper and pasteboard, haberdashery and cotton hosiery, partly set off by smaller receipts of camphor and matches improved the imports from that country by Rs. 3·17 lakhs. Exports were larger by Rs. 104·49 lakhs, raw cotton (+ Rs. 97·12 lakhs), tanned sheep skins (+ Rs. 6·17 lakhs) and articles by post (+ Rs. 1·87 lakhs) contributing to the increase. By sending two large consignments of sugar the *Philippine Islands* increased their trade with Madras at the expense of *Java.* The trade with *China* declined by Rs. 19·19 lakhs due to smaller supplies of cotton twist and yarn (— Rs. 15·84 lakhs) and raw cotton (— Rs. 4·93 lakhs) to that country.

AFRICA.

The trade with *Africa*, excluding Egypt, improved from Rs. 0·61 lakh to Rs. 4·01 lakhs on account of large shipments of rice to *Rèunion.*

AMERICA.

There was a further expansion of Rs. 76·25 lakhs, or 35 per cent, in the trade with *America*, practically the whole of which was confined to the United States. The total trade amounted to Rs. 298·33 lakhs against Rs. 222·08 lakhs in 1915–16 and was nearly double the share held by America before the war, and accounted for 7·69 per cent of the total trade. *Imports* showed an increase of Rs. 37·36 lakhs, or 53 per cent, chiefly under motor vehicles (+ Rs. 11·08 lakhs), railway plant and rolling-stock (+ Rs. 7·52 lakhs), mineral oils (+ Rs. 6·76 lakhs), machinery (+ Rs. 3·11 lakhs), paper and pasteboard (+ Rs. 2·65 lakhs), instruments (+ Rs. 2·30 lakhs) and chemicals (+ Rs. 1·86 lakhs). Imports of iron and steel however, declined by Rs. 2·41 lakhs. *Exports* expanded by Rs. 38·89 lakhs as there were larger shipments of tanned skins (+ Rs. 41·37 lakhs), senna leaves (+ Rs. 3·50 lakhs), raw rubber (+ Rs. 3·18 lakhs), indigo (+ Rs. 2·07 lakhs), turmeric (+ Rs. 1·93 lakhs), palmyra fibre (+ Rs. 1·28 lakhs), tea (+ Rs. 1·28 lakhs), and raw skins (+ Rs. 1 lakh), and smaller shipments of coconut oil (— Rs. 8·94 lakhs), sandalwood (— Rs. 2·80 lakhs), pepper (— Rs. 1·34 lakhs) and seeds (— Rs. 1·30 lakhs).

COASTING TRADE.

The aggregate value of coasting trade improved from Rs. 1,172 lakhs to Rs. 1,210 lakhs, or by 3 per cent; Rs. 1,171 lakhs representing private merchandise and Rs. 39 lakhs Treasure and Government stores.

The following table shows the distribution of the coasting trade in private merchandise only :—

		Average for five years ending 1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.	Increase or decrease in 1916–17.
		Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.
Bombay	Imports ..	233·94	181·12	179·91	— 1·21
	Exports ..	191·92	189·38	230·53	+ 41·15
	Total ..	425·86	370·50	410·44	+ 39·94
Burma	Imports ..	310·60	336·83	298·80	— 38·03
	Exports ..	120·72	97·13	108·10	+ 10·97
	Total ..	431·32	433·96	406·90	— 27·06
British Ports within the Presidency.	Imports ..	92·19	64·70	85·70	+ 21·00
	Exports ..	91·90	62·04	85·23	+ 23·19
	Total ..	184·09	126·74	170·93	+ 44·19
Bengal	Imports ..	155·96	42·08	25·73	— 16·35
	Exports ..	139·13	100·22	90·90	— 9·32
	Total ..	295·09	142·30	116·63	— 25·67
Sind	Imports ..	44·84	24·44	12·09	— 12·35
	Exports ..	14·20	11·68	12·10	+ 0·42
	Total ..	59·04	36·12	24·19	— 11·93
Bihar and Orissa	Imports ..	2·09	..	..	..
	Exports ..	..	..	..	..
	Total ..	2·09	..	..	..
Non-British Indian Ports.	Imports ..	6·41	11·15	10·52	— 0·63
	Exports ..	28·50	28·47	31·57	+ 3·10
	Total ..	34·91	39·62	42·09	+ 2·47
Total ..	Imports ..	846·03	660·32	612·75	— 47·57
	Exports ..	586·37	488·92	558·43	+ 69·51
	Total ..	1,432·40	1,149·24	1,171·18	+ 21·94

Imports coastwise of Indian produce declined from Rs. 586·65 lakhs to Rs. 530·96 lakhs, or by 9 per cent, while those of foreign merchandise increased from Rs. 73·66 lakhs to Rs. 81·79 lakhs, or by 11 per cent. *Exports* of both Indian and foreign produce increased by 13 and 56 per cent respectively, the figures for the former being Rs. 541·48 lakhs and the latter Rs. 16·95 lakhs against Rs. 478·03 lakhs and Rs. 10·89 lakhs respectively, in the previous year.

Bombay.—The decline of Rs. 1·21 lakhs in *imports* from Bombay was the net result of smaller receipts of grain and pulse by Rs. 5·82 lakhs, coffee by Rs. 1·90 lakhs, cotton twist and yarn by Rs. 1·80 lakhs, salt by Rs. 1·41 lakhs, coriander seeds by Rs. 1·37 lakhs and copper by Rs. 1·22 lakhs, partly counterbalanced by larger imports of raw cotton by Rs. 8·20 lakhs, sugar by Rs. 2·69 lakhs and paper and pasteboard by Rs. 1·17 lakhs. The expansion in the case of *exports* to Bombay was due to increased shipments of coffee by Rs. 12·29 lakhs, groundnuts by Rs. 9·28 lakhs, coconuts by Rs. 8·49 lakhs, drugs and medicines by Rs. 4·48 lakhs, copra by Rs. 3·48 lakhs, dried fruits by Rs. 2·98 lakhs, timber by Rs. 3·59 lakhs betelnuts by Rs. 2·25 lakhs, pepper by Rs. 1·74 lakhs, groundnut oil by Rs. 1·70 lakhs, sandalwood by Rs. 1·04 lakhs, and ginger and manures by Rs. 1 lakh each, but shipments of raw cotton and rice declined by Rs. 11·78 lakhs and Rs. 1·91 lakhs respectively.

Burma.—There was a decrease of Rs. 38·03 lakhs in the *imports* from Burma, the net result of smaller imports of grain and pulse (— Rs. 59·13 lakhs), partly met by larger receipts of teakwood (+ Rs. 11·86 lakhs), petrol (+ Rs. 4·34 lakhs), kerosene oil (+ Rs. 1·70 lakhs) and raw hides (+ Rs. 1·29 lakhs). The increased

exports to Burma were brought about by heavier shipments of groundnut oil (+ Rs. 7·18 lakhs), jinjili seeds (+ Rs. 4·59 lakhs), coconut oil (+ Rs. 2·95 lakhs), coffee (+ Rs. 1·32 lakhs) and coir manufactures (+ Rs. 1·28 lakhs), but shipments of cotton piece-goods and groundnuts declined by Rs. 4 lakhs and Rs. 2·72 lakhs respectively.

Bengal.—Smaller imports of coal (— Rs. 13·23 lakhs) and jute gunny bags (— Rs. 3·77 lakhs) reduced the *imports* from Bengal by Rs. 16·35 lakhs, and smaller shipments of rice (— Rs. 9·51 lakhs), coconut oil (— Rs. 3·09 lakhs), groundnuts (— Rs. 2·86 lakhs), coir manufactures (— Rs. 1·55 lakhs) and indigo (— Rs. 1·48 lakhs), partly set off by larger shipments of cotton twist and yarn (+ Rs. 5·41 lakhs), raw cotton (+ Rs. 3·80 lakhs) and salt (+ Rs. 1·94 lakhs) brought about a decrease of Rs. 9·32 lakhs in the *exports* to Bengal.

Other ports.—The decline in *imports* from *Sind* was due to smaller receipts of grain and pulse, and the slight improvement in *exports* was the net result of larger shipments of coconut oil and smaller shipments of copra. Larger shipments of rice to Goa improved the export trade with *Non-British Indian ports.*

Shipping.—The number of *entries* from coasting ports increased from 12,705 with a tonnage of 3,621,937 to 13,028 of 2,665,843 tons. The number of *clearances* to coasting ports was 13,151 of 2,633,189 tons against 12,708 of 3,464,483 tons in 1915–16. The total number of vessels which entered and cleared was 26,179, and of these 1,951 were British, 202 British Indian, 73 Foreign and 23,953 Native craft compared with 2,836, 283, 103 and 22,191 respectively, in the previous year. Of the entries and clearances of Native craft 38 were British, 22,712 British Indian and 1,203 Foreign against 29, 21,296 and 866 respectively, in 1915–16.

TRADE OF IMPORTANT PORTS.

The following table shows the total trade (excluding Government transactions) and comparative importance of the principal ports in the Madras Presidency :—

Ports.	Average for five years ending 1914–15.	1915–16.	1916–17.	Increase or decrease in 1916–17.	Percentage of trade of the whole Presidency for 1916–17.
	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	Rupees Lakhs.	
1. Madras	2,038·31	2,027·75	2,311·75	+ 284·00	44·88
2. Tuticorin	868·70	765·48	830·17	+ 64·69	16·11
3. Cochin	644·34	555·29	556·89	+ 1·60	10·81
4. Dhanushkodi	14·90	241·87	299·72	+ 57·85	5·82
5. Calicut	240·85	228·51	259·16	+ 30·65	5·03
6. Mangalore	188·52	176·31	214·76	+ 38·45	4·17
7. Negapatam	186·32	175·56	149·08	— 26·48	2·90
8. Cocanada	280·02	206·77	126·62	— 80·15	2·46
9. Cuddalore	167·38	103·41	78·07	— 25·34	1·51
10. Tellicherry	128·83	80·47	74·63	— 5·84	1·45
11. Kulasekarapatnam	21·48	23·35	33·59	+ 10·24	0·65
12. Badagara	48·68	26·07	29·08	+ 3·01	0·56
13. Cannanore	47·06	19·36	15·55	— 3·81	0·30
14. Porto Novo	50·18	24·50	14·55	— 9·95	0·28
15. Bimlipatam	34·50	12·87	13·06	+ 0·19	0·25
16. Masulipatam	12·17	6·16	10·33	+ 4·17	0·20
17. Pamban	17·41	15·08	9·07	— 6·01	0·17
18. Vizagapatam	26·82	8·67	8·77	+ 0·10	0·17

The relative importance of the trade of the outports remained much the same as in the previous year. Cocanada, which occupied the sixth place in 1915–16, ranked eighth in the year under review. The volume of trade at Negapatam, Cocanada, Cuddalore, Tellicherry, Cannanore, Porto Novo and Pamban declined, but at all the other principal ports there was an improvement.

Chief Port (Fort St. George).—Sea-borne trade on private account at the port of Madras represented 45 per cent of the trade of the whole Presidency compared with 42 per cent in the previous year, and improved in value from Rs. 2,027·75 lakhs to Rs. 2,311·75 lakhs, or by 14 per cent.

Foreign trade.—Private trade with foreign countries rose from Rs. 1,802·47 lakhs to Rs. 2,023·80 lakhs, or by 12 per cent. *Imports* of merchandise improved by Rs. 121·27 lakhs to Rs. 1,047·86 lakhs, or by 13 per cent. The trade in cotton goods rose by Rs. 50·24 lakhs, or 23 per cent. There were also increases under paper and pasteboard (+ Rs. 16·25 lakhs), motor vehicles (+ Rs. 11·81 lakhs), metals (+ Rs. 9·79 lakhs), oils (+ Rs. 8·53 lakhs), chemicals (+ Rs. 6·98 lakhs), machinery and millwork (+ Rs. 6 lakhs), provisions (+ Rs. 5·52 lakhs), wool manufactures (+ Rs. 5·29 lakhs), sugar (+ Rs. 4·34 lakhs), postal articles (+ Rs. 3·75 lakhs), soap (+ Rs. 3·45 lakhs), hardware (+ Rs. 3·29 lakhs), stationery (+ Rs. 3·24 lakhs), glassware (+ Rs. 3·13 lakhs), liquors (+ Rs. 2·37 lakhs), instruments (+ Rs. 2·36 lakhs), tobacco (+ Rs. 2·12 lakhs), spices (+ Rs. 1·51 lakhs), clocks and watches (+ Rs. 1·09 lakhs), arms and ammunition (+ Rs. 1·03 lakhs) and haberdashery (+ Rs. 1 lakh). On the other hand there were decreases under railway plant and rolling stock (— Rs. 30·36 lakhs), cement (— Rs. 6·03 lakhs) and matches (— Rs. 3 54 lakhs).

Exports amounted to Rs. 965·13 lakhs against Rs. 869·68 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 95·45 lakhs, or 11 per cent. (If the value of tanned hides shipped under Government control be added the exports from Madras show an increase of Rs. 274·08 lakhs, or 31 per cent.) There were heavier shipments of tanned skins (+ Rs. 193·69 lakhs), raw skins (+ Rs. 19·82 lakhs), oils (+ Rs. 14·39 lakhs), cotton piece-goods (+ Rs. 5·30 lakhs), mica (+ Rs. 2·30 lakhs) and fresh vegetables (+ Rs. 2·13 lakhs), but against these should be set reduced shipments of tanned hides, excluding hides shipped under Government control (— Rs. 49·21 lakhs), groundnuts (— Rs. 46·54 lakhs), indigo (— Rs. 41·38 lakhs), handkerchiefs (— Rs. 9·55 lakhs) and oil-cakes (— Rs. 1·13 lakhs).

Treasure.—There were no *imports* of gold, and imports of silver declined from Rs. 2·60 lakhs to Rs. 1·56 lakhs. *Exports* of gold declined from Rs. 2·07 lakhs to Rs. 0·05 lakh while those of silver improved from Rs. 2·23 lakhs to Rs. 9·90 lakhs.

Government transactions.—The total value of Government stores amounted to Rs. 276·01 lakhs against Rs. 64·48 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 211·53 lakhs, or 328 per cent. *Imports* rose from Rs. 63·07 lakhs to Rs. 97·04 lakhs and *exports* from Rs. 1·41 lakhs to Rs. 178·97 lakhs, of which Rs. 178·63 lakhs' worth represent the shipments of tanned hides under Government control.

Coasting trade.—The total private trade increased by Rs. 62·67 lakhs to Rs. 287·95 lakhs, or 28 per cent. *Imports* improved from Rs. 125·49 lakhs to Rs. 183·79 lakhs, or by 46 per cent, as a result of larger arrivals of kerosene oil (+ Rs. 26·44 lakhs), teakwood (+ Rs. 11·18 lakhs), petrol (+ Rs. 8·44 lakhs), grain and pulse (+ Rs. 5·57 lakhs) and raw hides (+ Rs. 2·07 lakhs), but imports of coal and coke declined by Rs. 2·36 lakhs.

Exports increased by Rs. 4·37 lakhs in consequence of larger shipments of sugar (+ Rs. 8·21 lakhs), hardware (+ Rs. 4·42 lakhs), coffee (+ Rs. 2·18 lakhs), tanned skins (+ Rs. 1·37 lakhs) and salt (+ Rs. 1·19 lakhs), partly set off by smaller shipments of cotton piece-goods (— Rs. 4·21 lakhs), groundnuts (— Rs. 3·94 lakhs), rice (— Rs. 2·17 lakhs), indigo (— Rs. 1·48 lakhs), provisions (— Rs. 1·33 lakhs) and fresh vegetables (— Rs. 1·17 lakhs).

Shipping.—The number of vessels entering declined from 354 aggregating 1,021,443 tons to 351 of 911,504 tons, while the number clearing rose from 344 of 1,006,949 tons to 346 of 925,307 tons.

Tuticorin.—In spite of the alternative route to Ceylon offered via Dhanushkodi, Tuticorin still maintains its place at the head of the outports. The total trade improved from Rs. 765·48 lakhs to Rs. 830·17 lakhs, or by 8 per cent.

Foreign trade improved from Rs. 610·95 lakhs to Rs. 695·37 lakhs, or by 14 per cent. *Imports* rose from Rs. 82·87 lakhs to Rs. 93·41 lakhs, or by 13 per cent. The chief articles contributing to the increase were cotton twist and yarn (+Rs. 14·84 lakhs), raw silk (+ Rs. 2·09 lakhs) and jute gunny bags (+ Rs. 1·89 lakhs), but there were smaller imports of betelnuts (— Rs. 3·98 lakhs), tea chests (— Rs. 2·11 lakhs), kerosene oil (— Rs. 1·88 lakhs) and sugar (— Rs. 1·39 lakhs). *Exports* rose by Rs. 73·88 lakhs to Rs. 601·96 lakhs, or by 14 per cent. The chief items of increase were raw cotton (+ Rs. 75·47 lakhs), treasure consisting chiefly of Government of India rupees (+ Rs. 50 lakhs), senna leaves (+ Rs. 21·53 lakhs), raw

rubber (+ Rs. 10·18 lakhs), sugar (+ Rs. 6·63 lakhs), oil-cakes (+ Rs. 5·91 lakhs) chillies (+ Rs. 2·64 lakhs) and fish (+ Rs. 1·28 lakhs). On the other hand there were decreases under rice and paddy (— Rs. 74·39 lakhs), cotton twist and yarn (— Rs. 14·56 lakhs), tea (– Rs. 6·74 lakhs), fresh vegetables (— Rs. 5·16 lakhs), articles by post (— Rs. 3·45 lakhs) and seeds (— Rs. 1·44 lakhs).

Coasting trade declined from Rs. 154·53 lakhs to Rs. 134·80 lakhs, or by 13 per cent. *Imports* receded by Rs. 33·29 lakhs as a result of shortages of grain and pulse (— Rs. 33·50 lakhs), kerosene oil (— Rs. 4·16 lakhs), timber (— Rs. 1·91 lakhs), coal (— Rs. 1·20 lakhs) and salt (— Rs. 1·13 lakhs), but imports of sugar and raw cotton improved by Rs. 6·48 and Rs. 6·15 lakhs respectively. *Exports* improved by Rs. 13·56 lakhs, due to larger shipments of cotton twist and yarn by Rs. 5·96 lakhs and drugs and medicines by Rs. 5·24 lakhs.

Shipping.—The number of vessels that entered at Tuticorin was 1,260 with a tonnage of 415,479, and the number that cleared was 1,304 of 415,181 tons compared with 1,403 entries of 564,700 tons and 1,334 clearances of 556,285 tons in 1915–16.

Cochin is the most important port on the West Coast and the chief centre of the coconut industry. The total trade showed a slight increase from Rs. 555·29 lakhs to Rs. 556·89 lakhs.

Foreign trade improved from Rs. 277·64 lakhs to Rs. 309·95 lakhs. *Imports* declined by Rs. 3·63 lakhs owing to smaller receipts of cotton piece-goods (— Rs. 2·10 lakhs) and sugar (— Rs. 2·03 lakhs), but the value of kerosene oil imported increased by Rs. 1·71 lakhs. *Exports* improved by Rs. 35·94 lakhs, owing to heavier shipments of copra (+ Rs. 15·56 lakhs), pepper (+ Rs. 9·74 lakhs), raw rubber (+ Rs. 4·30 lakhs), coconut oil (+ Rs. 3·82 lakhs), groundnut oil (+ Rs. 2 lakhs) and turmeric (+ Rs. 2 lakhs), but shipments of tea declined by Rs. 4·31 lakhs.

Coasting trade declined from Rs. 277·65 lakhs to Rs. 246·94 lakhs. *Imports* showed a falling off of Rs. 44·73 lakhs due to smaller receipts of grain and pulse (— Rs. 29·11 lakhs), kerosene oil (— Rs. 12·91 lakhs) and petrol (— Rs. 1·84 lakhs). *Exports* showed an increase of Rs. 14·02 lakhs as a result of larger shipments of groundnuts (+ Rs. 4·67 lakhs), provisions (+ Rs. 1·92 lakhs), copra (+ Rs. 1·61 lakhs), coconut oil (+ Rs. 1·59 lakhs) and groundnut oil (+ Rs. 1·36 lakhs).

Shipping.—One thousand and fifty-three vessels with a tonnage of 330,974 entered against 989 vessels of 401,169 tons, and there were 1,070 clearances against 1,045 in the pevious year.

Dhanushkodi.—The trade of this port was almost entirely confined to foreign trade and rose from Rs. 241·87 lakhs to Rs. 299·72 lakhs, or by 24 per cent. *Imports* expanded from Rs. 20·74 lakhs to Rs. 33·60 lakhs owing to larger receipts of betelnuts (+ Rs. 6·92 lakhs), postal articles (+ Rs. 1·56 lakhs), raw skins (+ Rs. 1·40 lakhs) and jute gunny bags. *Exports* improved from Rs. 221·13 lakhs to Rs. 266·12 lakhs in consequence of heavier shipments of rice (+ Rs. 30·63 lakhs), postal articles (+ Rs. 11·66 lakhs) and salted fish (+ Rs. 6·07 lakhs) but shipments of oil-cake declined by Rs. 3·71 lakhs.

Shipping.—Six hundred and eighty-two vessels with an average tonnage per vessel of 255 tons entered compared with 723 entries with an average tonnage of 236 in 1915–16.

Calicut.—The total trade expanded by Rs. 30·65 lakhs to Rs. 259·16 lakhs.

Foreign trade improved from Rs. 141·72 lakhs to Rs. 166 lakhs. *Imports* declined by Rs. 5·44 lakhs as a result of smaller receipts of sugar (— Rs. 2·32 lakhs), patent fuel (— Rs. 1·46 lakhs) and railway materials. *Exports* improved by Rs. 29·72 lakhs to which tea contributed Rs. 14·44 lakhs, copra Rs. 6·91 lakhs, raw rubber Rs. 3·64 lakhs, sandalwood Rs. 3·42 lakhs, pepper Rs. 2·94 lakhs, fish manure Rs. 2·41 lakhs and coffee Rs. 2·29 lakhs, but shipments of tanned hides and skins declined by Rs. 8·77 lakhs.

Coasting trade improved from Rs. 86·79 lakhs to Rs. 93·16 lakhs. *Imports* declined by Rs. 1·51 lakhs as the net result of smaller imports of grain and pulse (— Rs. 6·82 lakhs) and salt (— Rs. 2 lakhs), and larger imports of manures (+ Rs. 3·12 lakhs) and raw cotton (+ Rs. 2·06 lakhs). *Exports* improved by Rs. 7·88 lakhs due to larger shipments of coconuts, timber, tea and ginger.

Shipping.—Two thousand six hundred and eight vessels aggregating 264,810 tons entered and 2,529 vessels of 265,344 tons cleared. The figures for the previous year were 1,336 vessels of 306,813 tons under entries and 1,362 vessels of 310,078 tons under clearances.

Mangalore.—The total trade expanded from Rs. 176·31 lakhs to Rs. 214·76 lakhs, or by 21 per cent.

Foreign trade improved from Rs. 52·86 lakhs to Rs. 54·38 lakhs. *Imports* receded by Rs. 3·04 lakhs, smaller arrivals of kerosene oil and metals mainly contributing to the decrease. *Exports* rose by Rs. 4·56 lakhs as the net result of heavier shipments of copra (+ Rs. 13·12 lakhs), pepper (+ Rs. 3·74 lakhs) and manures (+ Rs. 1·71 lakhs), partly set off by smaller shipments of coffee (— Rs. 15·63 lakhs).

Coasting trade expanded from Rs. 123·45 lakhs to Rs. 160·38 lakhs. *Imports* rose by Rs 4·70 lakhs, the result of increased supplies of manures, cotton twist, copra and coffee, and *exports* by Rs. 32·23 lakhs as there were heavier shipments of coffee (+ Rs. 13·45 lakhs), groundnuts (+ Rs. 4·02 lakhs), betelnuts (+ Rs. 3·78 lakhs), rice (+ Rs. 2·29 lakhs), pepper, coconuts and cardamoms.

Shipping.—Two thousand five hundred and thirty-one vessels with an average tonnage of 50 per vessel entered and 2,572 cleared against 2,296 with an average of 60 tons per vessel both under entries and clearances in the previous year.

Negapatam.—The total trade declined from Rs. 175·56 lakhs to Rs. 149·08 lakhs.

Foreign trade receded from Rs. 148·34 lakhs to Rs. 128·01 lakhs. *Imports* declined by Rs. 2·09 lakhs due to smaller receipts of railway materials, sugar and jute gunny bags, and *exports* by Rs. 18·24 lakhs in consequence of smaller shipments of groundnuts (— Rs. 18·09 lakhs), coloured piece-goods (— Rs. 3·27 lakhs), rice (— Rs. 3·16 lakhs), and turmeric (— Rs. 1·29 lakhs), partly counterbalanced by larger shipments of sugar (+Rs. 2·67 lakhs), living animals (+Rs. 2·38 lakhs) and silk goods (+Rs. 1·65 lakhs).

Coasting trade declined from Rs. 27·22 lakhs to Rs. 21·07 lakhs. *Imports* declined by Rs. 3·89 lakhs, the decrease being mainly under coal, and *exports* by Rs. 2·26 lakhs, smaller shipments of groundnuts and tobacco leaf chiefly contributing to the decrease.

Shipping.—The number of vessels that entered at Negapatam rose from 378 to 406 but their tonnages declined from 377,950 to 349,577.

Cocanada.—There was a considerable fall in the total trade of this port from Rs. 206·77 lakhs to Rs. 126·62 lakhs, or by nearly 40 per cent.

Foreign trade declined from Rs. 140·83 lakhs to Rs. 85·87 lakhs. *Imports* receded by Rs. 8·45 lakhs as a result of smaller receipts of kerosene oil (— Rs. 6·37 lakhs) and metals (— Rs. 2·80 lakhs), and *exports* by Rs. 46·51 lakhs in consequence of smaller shipments of rice (— Rs. 37·11 lakhs), raw cotton (— Rs. 9·92 lakhs), castor seeds (— Rs. 4·13 lakhs) and oil-cakes (— Rs. 2·45 lakhs), but shipments of castor oil, raw hemp and palmyra fibre increased by Rs. 2·95, 1·58 and 1·18 lakhs respectively.

Coasting trade fell from Rs. 65·94 lakhs to Rs. 40·75 lakhs. The decline of Rs. 8·69 lakhs under *imports* was brought about by smaller arrivals of kerosene oil (— Rs. 7·74 lakhs) and petrol (— Rs. 1·80 lakhs), but imports of teakwood rose by Rs. 1·35 lakhs. The decrease of Rs. 16·50 lakhs under *exports* was the net result of reduced shipments of rice (— Rs. 9·32 lakhs), raw cotton (— Rs. 7·80 lakhs) and tobacco leaf (— Rs. 1·86 lakhs) and larger shipments of jinjili seeds (+Rs. 4·70 lakhs).

Shipping.—One hundred and twenty-one vessels entered and 129 vessels cleared compared with 146 and 153 respectively, in 1915–16. The average tonnage per vessel was 1,411 tons as against 1,898 tons in the previous year.

Cuddalore.—The trade of this port further receded from Rs. 103·41 lakhs to Rs. 78·07 lakhs.

Foreign trade had a set-back from Rs. 80·46 lakhs to Rs. 57·40 lakhs. *Imports* improved by Rs. 10·63 lakhs, betelnuts (+Rs. 7·23 lakhs) and sugar (+Rs. 2·38

lakhs) mainly contributing to the increase, while *exports* fell by Rs. 33·69 lakhs owing to a shortage of Rs. 35·29 lakhs under groundnuts, but shipments of coloured piece-goods rose by Rs. 2·25 lakhs.

Coasting trade declined from Rs. 22·95 lakhs to Rs. 20·67 lakhs. Smaller imports of coal and jute gunny bags resulted in a decrease of Rs. 1·39 lakhs under *imports* and smaller shipments of sugar, partly counterbalanced by larger shipments of groundnut oil, brought about a decline under *exports*.

Shipping.—Seventy-seven vessels entered during the year with an average tonnage of 2,426 compared with 101 vessels of 2,389 tons per vessel in 1915–16.

Tellicherry.—The total trade dropped from Rs. 80·47 lakhs to Rs. 74·63 lakhs.

Foreign trade declined from Rs. 61·37 lakhs to Rs. 56·49 lakhs. *Imports* declined by Rs. 0·25 lakh and *exports* by Rs. 4·63 lakhs. The decline under exports mainly occurred under coffee (— Rs. 3·44 lakhs) and pepper (— Rs. 2·48 lakhs), but copra showed an increase of Rs. 2·26 lakhs.

Coasting trade amounted to Rs. 18·14 lakhs against Rs. 19·10 lakhs in 1915–16. Smaller imports of grain and pulse were counterbalanced by larger shipments of pepper and coffee.

Shipping.—Five hundred and fifty-two vessels with a tonnage of 86,911, entered the port against 495 vessels of 119,129 tons in 1915–16.

Kulasekarapatnam.—The total trade improved by Rs. 10·24 lakhs as a result of larger imports of treasure and larger exports of sugar coastwise.

Badagara.—The increase of Rs. 3·01 lakhs in the trade of Badagara was brought about by larger coastwise exports of copra and coconuts which compensated for the reduced coastwise imports of grain and pulse.

Cannanore.—Smaller imports of grain coastwise reduced the trade of Cannanore by Rs. 3·81 lakhs.

Porto Novo.—The total trade declined from Rs. 24·50 to Rs. 14·55 lakhs in consequence of smaller shipments of groundnuts (— Rs. 7·50 lakhs) and rice (— Rs. 2·34 lakhs) to foreign countries.

Masulipatam.—The increase of Rs. 4·17 lakhs in the trade of Masulipatam was due to larger shipments of rice to foreign countries.

Pamban.—Smaller coastwise imports of coal reduced the trade of Pamban from Rs. 15·08 lakhs to Rs. 9·07 lakhs.

ADMINISTRATION.

Receipts.—The following table shows the detailed customs revenue of the several ports and land customs stations for the past three years :—

	1914-15.			1915-16.			1916-17.		
	Import duty.	Export duty.	Miscellaneous receipts.	Import duty.	Export duty.	Miscellaneous receipts.	Import duty.	Export duty.	Miscellaneous receipts.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Madras (Chief Port)	58,94,703	676	2,13,154	47,58,044	8,012	2,34,353	70,95,321	36,071	3,18,619
Outports—									
Dhanushkodi ..	15,624	1,55,166	859	72,996	4,25,901	986	2,05,252	5,69,694	2,083
Tuticorin ..	3,53,356	1,69,295	4,746	2,50,387	3,37,069	4,805	3,72,211	2,02,862	5,946
Cochin .. .	3,58,161	9,570	8,723	3,34,875	5,543	6,165	3,30,045	54,404	4,018
Negapatam ..	1,16,826	1,01,591	2,107	1,07,747	1,57,227	2,045	1,53,788	1,38,720	2,518
Calicut ..	1,51,483	114	5,777	1,47,527	19,152	4,907	1,51,414	90,573	5,234
Cocanada .	1,23,575	4,53,959	2,646	1,58,960	2,92,230	2,299	1,02,366	1,32,139	1,773
Cuddalore ..	78,211	14	1,729	51,399	282	2,215	2,12,489	447	3,450
Masulipatam ..	1,104	31,910	261	850	24,382	251	7	58,375	512
Mangalore ..	36,338	15,396	1,419	51,738	17,712	1,935	14,322	22,471	2,223
Tellicherry ..	40,967	174	573	25,981	34	323	17,782	1,122	523
Other ports ..	42,640	1,23,538	20,643	30,195	1,10,543	4,550	41,950	1,11,782	5,108
Total, Outports ..	13,18,285	10,60,727	49,483	12,32,655	13,90,075	30,481	16,01,626	13,82,589	33,388
Land Customs ..	2,54,769	27,842	2,463	2,57,938	17,617	2,352	2,13,074	23,391	2,388
Grand Total ..	74,67,757	10,89,245	2,65,100	62,48,637	14,15,704	2,67,186	89,10,021	14,42,051	3,54,395

The total revenue receipts for the Presidency increased from Rs. 79,31,527 to Rs. 1,07,06,467, or by 35 per cent.

Chief Port (Fort St. George).—The duty collected on imports at Madras improved by Rs. 23,37,277, or 49 per cent, the increase being mainly under manufactured articles and silver manufactures (+ Rs. 10,37,422), cotton piece-goods (+ Rs. 2,50,961), sugar (+ Rs. 2,32,883), tobacco (+ Rs. 1,63,441), metals (+ Rs. 1,36, 172), cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments (+ Rs. 1,33,094), articles of food and drink (+ Rs. 1,05,097), raw materials, (+ Rs. 71,654), machinery (+ Rs. 68,746), railway plant and rolling-stock (+ Rs. 66,452), petroleum (+ Rs. 43,794) and liquors (+ Rs. 28,540), but there was a decrease under silver bullion and coin. Excise duty on cotton manufactures amounted to Rs. 2,57,954 against Rs. 1,92,607 in the previous year, and formed the greater part of the miscellaneous receipts.

Outports.—The increase of Rs. 3,68,971 under *import duty* was due to increased collections at Cuddalore (+ Rs. 1,61,090), Dhanushkodi (+ Rs. 1,32,256), Tuticorin (+ Rs. 1,21, 824), Negapatam (+ Rs. 46,041) and Calicut (+ Rs. 3,887), but there were smaller collections at Cocanada (— Rs. 56,594), Mangalore (— Rs. 37,416), Tellicherry (— Rs. 8,199) and Cochin (— Rs. 4,830). The decrease of Rs 7,486 under *export duty* was the net result of smaller collections at Cocanada (— Rs. 1,60,091), Tuticorin (— Rs. 1,34,207) and Negapatam (— Rs. 18,507), which were partly set off by increased collections at Dhanushkodi (+ Rs. 1,43,793), Calicut (+ Rs. 71,421) and Masulipatam (+ Rs. 33,993).

Land Customs.—Receipts at the Land Customs stations showed a decrease from Rs. 2,77,907 to Rs. 2,38,853. Receipts on the Pondicherry frontier fell from Rs. 1,08,512 to Rs. 91,239, and those at Karaikkal from Rs. 1,64,323 to Rs. 1,42,709. The Mahé and Yanam frontiers accounted for Rs. 4,126 and Rs. 779 against Rs. 4,422 and Rs. 650 respectively, in the previous year.

Disbursements.—The total disbursements on account of Customs for the whole Presidency amounted to Rs. 7,01,480 compared with Rs. 5,77,094 in 1915–16. Rs. 2,14,887 was charged under *Salaries, Establishments and Contingencies* for the chief port and Rs. 2,14,132 for the outports and Land Customs stations. Disbursements under *Refunds and Drawbacks* for the whole Presidency amounted to Rs. 2,72,460 compared with Rs. 1,62,316 in 1915–16.

Customs offences.—The number of offences dealt with under the Sea Customs Act during the year was 1,494 against 1,488 in the previous year. Penalties realised Rs. 27,019 against Rs. 17,281 in 1915–16. The sum of Rs. 27,019 includes Rs. 4,000 paid in instalments in connection with the large seizure of feathers mentioned in last year's review. Eight hundred and ninety-four cases occurred at Madras and 600 at the outports.

At Madras there were three cases of smuggling of opium. In one of these, the quantity seized was 512 tolas and the offenders, two in number, were convicted by the Presidency Magistrate and each sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment. In the second case the quantity seized was small and the two offenders were sentenced in the Police Court to pay a fine of Rs. 70 collectively. In the third case the quantity was very small. In all three cases the opium was confiscated.

At Negapatam two cases of smuggling were detected, 55 seers of opium and 46 seers of ganja were seized in a Native craft which cleared at dead of night but was overtaken by the Customs and Excise officers. The accused, consisting of the twelve men found on board, were convicted in both cases by the Joint Magistrate. In the first case they were each sentenced under the Opium Act to rigorous imprisonment for one year and to pay a fine of Rs. 250. In the second case they were each sentenced under the Abkári Act to six months' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 250. On appeal the judgments were upheld by the District and Sessions Judge.

At Sannamangalam, on the Karaikkal frontier, a case of smuggling of 7,000 bars of silver valued at about Rs. 32,000 was detected. The silver was confiscated.

At Pondicherry there was a case of smuggling of forty bars of silver which were confiscated.

The Indian Merchandise Marks Act.—There were 255 infringements of the Act against 130 in 1915–16. Of these 254 occurred at Madras and only 1

at outports. The following table in the prescribed form shows the nature of the offences and the manner in which they were dealt with :—

Class of cases.	I Passed without correction of marking or penalty.	II Passed on correction of marking without penalty.	III Passed with nominal penalty.	IV Passed with heavier penalty or reshipped, or confiscated, subject to fine in redemption.	Total.
A.—Application of counterfeit trade mark or false indication in respect of the person by whom goods were made or produced.	..	..	..	..	..
B.—Application of false trade description or other indication in respect of the country in which goods were made or produced—					
(1) as between the United Kingdom or British India and a foreign country.	17	25	61	39	142
(2) as between two foreign countries	..	..	..	..	..
C.—Application of trade description that is false in other respects, namely—					
(1) as to the number, quantity, measure, gauge or weight of the goods.	..	..	..	..	..
(2) as to the time at which the goods were made or produced.	..	..	..	..	..
(3) as to the mode of manufacture or production	..	..	..	..	..
(4) as to the material of which the goods were composed.	..	..	..	..	..
(5) as to the goods being the subject of an existing patent, privilege or copyright.	..	..	1	9	10
D.—Length not properly stamped on piece-goods	2	7	78	16	103
Total ..	19	32	140	64	255

The majority of the infringements were as usual under clause B (1) in which goods, manufactured chiefly in Japan and the United States of America, bore descriptions suggestive of British origin unaccompanied by a distinctive and permanent indication of the country of origin.

The more important of the cases are summarised below :—

(i) A small consignment of toilet powder was imported from Japan put up in imitation of the product of a well-known English manufacturer without the necessary indication of the country of origin. It was confiscated but subsequently released on payment of a redemption penalty of Rs. 100.

(ii) Two consignments of Japanese matches bore the counter-indication of the country of origin in such minute type as to be scarcely visible. They were passed on payment of penalties of Rs. 25 and Rs. 75.

The increase in the number of cases under class D from 33 to 103 was due to the inclusion in the revised list of piece-goods (published under section 19 of the Merchandise Marks Act) of a number of new items which formerly did not require to be stamped with yardage, and to the importers not having taken proper steps to advise the suppliers of the additions to the list.

Penalties amounting to Rs. 1,451 were imposed in 204 cases. In the previous year there were 83 cases and the penalties amounted to Rs. 742.

Cotton Duties Act.—The total production of *yarn* in the Presidency was 44,196,607 lb. during the year under review, against 44,303,311 lb. in 1915-16, showing a decrease of less than ¼ per cent.

The total quantity of *cloth* produced in the mills of the Presidency was 13,927,193 lb. against 11,959,884 lb. in the previous year. Of the total production, the mills in the City of Madras were responsible for 12,258,611 lb., the bulk of which consisted of khaki cloth for the military authorities.

The *excise duty* collected during the year amounted to Rs. 2·87 lakhs against Rs. 2·11 lakhs in 1915-16, an increase of 26 per cent.

The amount of *drawback* paid on account of shipments to foreign ports was Rs. 2,239 compared with Rs. 2,610 in the previous year.

Documents.—There was an increase of 1 per cent in the total number of documents dealt with during the year. These comprised 43,651 bills of entry, 62,587 shipping bills, 17,591 import manifests and 17,404 export manifests,

against 42,185, 65,017, 16,249 and 16,154 respectively, in the previous year. The number of documents amended was 3,823 and the amount of fees realized was Rs. 2,645 against Rs. 4,103 and Rs. 2,349 respectively, in 1915–16. The number of bonds executed for goods warehoused during the year was 337 compared with 351 in the previous year.

Administration.—During the year the Motor Spirit (Duties) Act II of 1917 provided for an imposition of an excise duty of 6 annas on each Imperial gallon of motor spirit either manufactured or imported. Act VI of 1917 further amended the Indian Tariff Act, and under it the import duty on cotton piece-goods and other manufactured cotton goods was raised from 3½ per cent to 7½ per cent, and that on silver manufactures was fixed at 10 per cent *ad valorem*. The export duty on jute and jute manufactures was doubled.

Statistical publications.—The sale-proceeds of statistical publications amounted to Rs. 6,766 against Rs. 6,676 in 1915–16, the cost incurred in preparing them (excluding the monthly statement of imports and exports from the chief port and the supplement for outports, which are printed at the Government Press) was Rs. 4,996 against Rs. 5,129 in the preceding year.

Administration of outports.—With the exception of a few ports in the Western Customs Circle, all the outports and principal land customs stations were inspected by the Collector or Senior Assistant Collector.

On the Pondicherry frontier, Karadikuppam Chauki has been converted temporarily for one year into an outgate. On the West Coast the sub-port of Shirur was closed as such and made a wharf of Baindur.

The Northern Customs Circle was in charge of Mr. J. B. Chatterton until 8th June 1916 when Mr. S. R. Beeson from Cuddalore took charge. Mr. Beeson was promoted soon afterwards to be Assistant Collector of Customs, Madras, and handed over charge to M.R.Ry. P. Duraiappa Ayyar Avargal.

At the beginning of the year the Central Customs Circle No. I was in charge of Mr. S. R. Beeson, but about the middle of June Mr. J. W. Borebank from Dhanushkodi relieved him.

M.R.Ry. P. Duraiappa Ayyar Avargal held charge of the Southern Customs Circle until 7th September 1916 when M.R.Ry. S. Raghava Achariyar was promoted to act as Inspector and to hold charge with Tuticorin as his headquarters.

Dhanushkodi, including the administrative control of the ports of Pamban, Devipatnam and Kilakarai, changed hands on 12th June 1916 from Mr. J. W. Borebank to Mr. J. B. Chatterton.

Messrs. A. E. Ramsbotham and B. D. Court continued to hold charge of the Central Customs Circle No. II and the Western Customs Circle respectively.

Assistant Inspector M.R.Ry. M. R. Natesa Ayyar, who had been supervisor of the Bonded Factory at Dindigul since its inauguration in 1912, was relieved by Assistant Inspector M.R.Ry. K. R. Srinivasa Chari on 10th October 1916.

Establishment.—Mr. C. W. E. Cotton, I.C.S., who assumed charge as Collector of Customs, Madras, on the 27th October 1915 went on privilege leave for six weeks from 26th April 1916. Mr. G. N. Bower, the Senior Assistant Collector, was appointed Officiating Collector during Mr. Cotton's absence on leave and again when the latter was transferred to Calcutta on 8th September 1916. On 5th November 1916 Mr. Bower was relieved by Mr. P. Eccles, I.C.S.

On 31st January 1917, Mr. Eccles proceeded on five weeks' privilege leave and Mr. Bower again officiated as Collector.

Mr. P. W. Singleton, Assistant Collector, went on privilege leave for one month from 16th June 1916. Mr. T. H. Potts from Bombay was appointed Assistant Collector at Madras on 20th June 1916, but on account of ill-health he was granted long leave from 11th July 1916, and Mr. S. R. Beeson, an Inspector of the Salt, Abkári and Customs Department, was appointed to officiate as an Assistant Collector and posted to Madras on 7th September 1916.

Mr. Bower again supervised the preparation of this report and has done most of the inspection of the outports.

CUSTOM HOUSE,
Madras, 19*th May* 1917.

P. ECCLES,
Offg. Collector of Customs.

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